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Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support a proposal to reduce the number of associated judges in the Superior Court from "at least four" to "at least three"?

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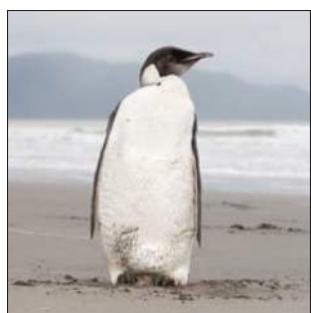
INSIDE



Convicted

Polygamist sect leader Warren Jeffs is convicted of sexually assaulting two child brides.

NATION...Page 14



Happy Feet

Happy Feet is now a creature of the Internet age.

ASIA...Page 15



Summer Salads

Summer salads are the workhorses of picnics, potlucks and patio parties.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING...
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Suwoso's lease extension OK'd



I am proud of our legislators who stood up and made a firm decision to support and encourage local investors along with foreign investors.

Jupiter mission a quest to find the 'recipe' for planet-making

By SCOTT GOLD
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Even for scientists versed in the grand scale of astronomy, it's never been easy to grasp the scope of Jupiter.

After all, you could fit every piece of the solar system other than the sun inside Jupiter—all the other planets, moons and asteroids—with plenty of room to spare. Jupiter has cannibalized 20 moons over the years and still has at least 63, one bigger than Mercury. Jupiter's "spot" is actually a hurricane, which has lasted for hundreds of years and is more than

See JUPITER on Page 4



This image provided by NASA shows an Atlas V rocket with NASA's Juno spacecraft payload at Space Launch Complex 41 of the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida Thursday evening Aug. 4, 2011. Juno's launch window begins Friday at 11:34 a.m. EDT.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
One of Suwoso Corp.'s new owners, Japanese businessman Yusuke Fumoto, right, along with members of the community and senators, patiently waits for the start of a joint session yesterday on Capitol Hill.

- Joint session lasts until 8pm
- South Pacific Lumber also gets OK

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After a disappointing three-hour delay and almost two hours of debate, the Senate and the House of Representatives approved last night Suwoso Corp.'s proposed 15-year extension on its 25-year public land lease for Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

Of the 27 of 29 lawmakers present at the joint session that lasted until 8pm, 24 voted "yes," two "abstained," and one voted "present" on Suwoso's lease extension.

After a three-hour delay caused by

the House leadership's closed-door meeting came a lengthy debate among lawmakers on the ability of Suwoso Corp.—under a new ownership—to fulfill its contract

See SUWASO on Page 4

HOW THEY VOTED

Of the 27 of 29 lawmakers present:
► 24 voted yes
► 2 abstained
► 1 voted 'present'

LOCAL: More release conditions for driver's license scam suspect. PAGE 3
BUSINESS: Dow falls in steepest decline since '08. PAGE 13

Local

Warrant OK'd to allow OSHA to inspect Herman's Bakery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court granted U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis' request for an inspection warrant to allow an officer of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to inspect Herman's Modern Bakery on Tun Herman Pan Road.

Solis, through assistant U.S. attorney Mikel W. Schwab, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday to is-

sue the inspection warrant after Herman's Bakery management reportedly required OSHA to obtain a warrant before inspecting the company's premises.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Solis' request that same day.

Diantha Goo, OSHA compliance safety and health officer, said that Herman's Modern Bakery Inc. was selected by OSHA on an impartial basis for a programmed general

schedule inspection to check if it complies with the Amputation National Emphasis Program.

In her order, Manglona allowed Solis or a designated OSHA representative to enter the bakery's premises during regular work hours to inspect and determine the company's compliance with the OSHA Act. Manglona directed Goo or any OSHA officer not to disclose any information deemed a trade secret that may be obtained dur-

ing the inspection.

Manglona ordered that a return shall be made to the court showing the inspection has been completed within 10 days.

According to court documents, Goo filed the return and notice of inspection on Thursday. In that notice, Goo disclosed that she was allowed entry to Herman's Bakery and the inspection was completed on Thursday.

Goo first tried to do the inspection on July 29, 2011. She

said she entered Herman's Bakery, presented her credentials to the assistant general manager, and explained the reason for the inspection.

Goo said that after the discussion, the assistant general manager called their general manager and president, Juan T. Guerrero, who told the assistant general manager to inform Goo that if OSHA wants to make an inspection, OSHA should get a court order. Goo said that Guerrero did not tell her why a court

order was necessary. Goo then contacted her supervisor and explained the refusal of entry.

"The inspection and investigation sought herein is part of the National Emphasis Program on Amputations, a program designed to assure compliance with OSHA Act of 1970," Goo added.

OSHA is the main federal agency charged with the enforcement of safety and health legislation.

CNMI ARRA completes quarterly report

The CNMI ARRA Office has just completed the second quarter 2011 reporting of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funds for CNMI.

The CNMI ARRA Office reiterated the importance of distinguishing between the amounts

awarded to the central government directly and those applied for and received by autonomous agencies.

The central government awards total approximately \$88 million, with the largest grants being the \$44 million awarded

for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund and the \$29 million awarded to the CNMI Division of Energy for the State Energy Program for its programs. Other agencies, including the Workforce Investment Agency, Division of Environmental Quality, and the

departments of Public Works, Public Health, Public Safety, Commerce, and Community and Cultural Affairs comprise the rest of the funding.

"These funds we have direct control over and thus far with the \$49 million in expenditures reported, we have expended over 55 percent of these funds," said the CNMI ARRA Office in a statement yesterday.

The ARRA Recovery.gov website does not distinguish between central government awards and those awarded to autonomous agencies; the amounts are reported cumulatively. The CNMI ARRA Office cited as an example the recent awarding of the Sandy Beach Home Project, which increased the CNMI's ARRA funding total to the current \$120.9 million mark. This, along with the \$8.1 million award given to IT&E last year, account for nearly one-fourth of the CNMI's total ARRA funds.

"Although the CNMI government does not have control over these projects we have continued to partner with ARRA recipients to ensure the proper administra-

tion of expending these funds," the statement adds.

As of the second quarter reporting period, several agencies, including WIA and DCCA, have successfully expended their respective ARRA grant awards. A liquidation period of 90 days is given under each grant to finalize all expenditures relative to the grant. Both WIA and DCCA's funds should be fully completed by the September reporting period.

CNMI ARRA funding benefits

The CNMI continues to make steady progress toward the completion of several major projects and the complete expenditure of its ARRA funds. The progress made thus far can be evidenced by the impact several major grant funds have made to include the following examples:

■ The State Fiscal Stabilization Fund has helped to save 44 teaching jobs at Garapan Elementary School while providing for laptops for its secondary students and numerous infrastructure projects.

■ The State Energy Program has provided for lighting retro-

fits at CHC, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, and the Legislature, air-conditioning retrofits at the Senate Chamber and CHC, tinting of the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota health centers, and the street light retrofits to LED lamps for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Several other projects, including the installation of solar-powered school zone and pedestrian crosswalk beacons, the retrofitting of CUC's turbo-chargers, and the cross-island road improvement project are currently ongoing.

The CNMI ARRA Office said it continues to go through painstaking measures to ensure that all ARRA guidelines and protocols have been adhered to in the execution of these projects.

"Our office continues to work closely with our local agencies, leadership, and federal counterparts to ensure that we not only expend the funds prior to the established deadlines but do so in a responsible manner displaying the CNMI's commitment to quality assurance," said Fred Camacho, CNMI ARRA communications/compliance director.

(Office of the Governor)



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Bill seeks to expand transportation funding for American territories

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo has introduced the "Territories Economic Development Opportunities Act," which amends Title 23 of the U.S. Code to allow U.S. territories to participate in federal-aid highway discretionary programs.

Current statute bars Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands from competing for certain highway discretionary programs. These include funding for ferries or ferry terminals as well as the Federal Bridge Program. Bordallo's bill would fix this inequity in transportation funding options available to the territories.

The bill is co-sponsored by Delegates Donna Christensen

of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Eni Faleomavaega of American Samoa, and Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan of the CNMI.

"The Territories Economic Development Opportunity Act ensures that Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the [CNMI] are able to compete for discretionary programs administered by the Federal Highway Administration," said Bordallo. "This bill ensures that the territories have the same opportunity as any other jurisdiction for federal resources to improve their infrastructure systems. We have serious and immediate infrastructure needs on Guam, and we should have the same opportunity as any state to compete for these critical funds." **(PR)**

More release conditions for suspect in driver's license scam

The federal court on Thursday has allowed one of the five suspects in a driver's license scam at the Department of Public Safety to remain free until the start of trial but with additional conditions.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona modified Mohammad Jahangir Miah's release conditions after Miah admitted to violating his bail conditions when he was found in possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

Miah and his counsel, Joseph Horey, and assistant U.S. attorney Kirk Schuler, agreed to the changes in Miah's release conditions instead of having him detained again.

The defense and prosecution

proposed five more release conditions; Manglona accepted the proposal and added one more.

Manglona noted that she is very hesitant to accept the parties' agreement, but that she understands based on the representation of both counsels that there are other things being considered in this matter.

"You are reminded to abide by the orders," the judge told Miah.

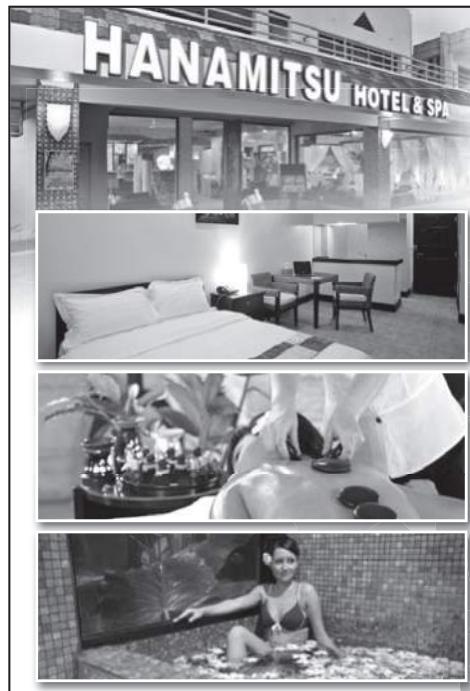
According to Schuler, Miah, while on pre-trial release, violated federal and local law by possessing marijuana on May 25, 2011. A detective reportedly found the marijuana in Miah's room during the search at his house. (Ferdie de la Torre)

The additional conditions in-

clude not drinking any alcoholic beverages, not using controlled substances, letting himself be tested for drugs or alcohol use, avoiding contact with any victim or potential witnesses in the investigation or prosecution, and advising the U.S. Probation officer if he is a victim of a crime.

Miah's jury trial in the driver's license scam case will start on Sept. 12, 2011. His four co-defendants have already pleaded guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

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SHEFA cuts credit requirement for higher degree beneficiaries

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is now seeking public comments on a new policy on the required credit loads for master's and advanced degree students.

The proposed policy has been published in the *Commonwealth Register* and is open for comments for 30 days.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofsneider told the board that the proposed policy was published on July 22. The board is expected to adopt the policy as final after the comment period expires.

The board, at Hofsneider's recommendation, approved in June this year reducing the credits required of master's and advanced degree students from the current 12 to just nine credits per academic term.

Once adopted as final, the new policy will take effect in

the fall 2011 semester.

The issue arose after the new SHEFA management and board refused to reimburse some scholars who only obtained nine full-time credits—a violation of program regulations that require 12 credits.

Affected scholars said they were approved nine credit units by the previous SHEFA board. It was later discovered that the changes in the regulation were never published in the *Commonwealth Register*.

"The reduction is necessary and proper in view of concerns expressed by recipients of SHEFA financial assistance funds pursuing graduate and advanced level degrees that most institutions of higher education require nine credits to meet full-time status," the proposed policy stated. (Moneth G. Deposa)

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JUPITER

From Page 1

twice the diameter of Earth.

But Jupiter isn't just a forbidding ball of gas. Somewhere in there are the clues, scientists believe, to the origin of the solar system—and Earth. Starting the morning of Aug. 5 (Aug. 6, Chamorro standard time), NASA will enter the launch period for the spacecraft Juno, which will begin an unprecedented exploration of Jupiter's profound secrets.

"We are after the recipe for planet-making. To get the list of ingredients—this is the place," said Scott Bolton, the mission's principal investigator and the director of space science at San Antonio's Southwest Research Institute.

Roughly four and a half billion years ago, the sun formed when a giant cloud of gas and dust collapsed under its own gravity. The sun sucked up virtually all of it, but there were leftovers. Those leftovers formed the solar system, and most of them wound up inside Jupiter.

Unlike other planets that shed their elements over time and undergo sweeping change, Jupiter's sheer girth has allowed it to retain most of its original features. Contained inside, said William Hubbard, a University of Arizona professor of planetary sciences and one of the mission's top scientists, is a record, essentially, of the birth of the planets.

"It ties right back to us," Bolton said. "These are the elements of life, the elements that Earth is made out of. How Jupiter managed to get enriched in these elements is right at the essence of how we got here. Where did we come from? That's what it comes down to."

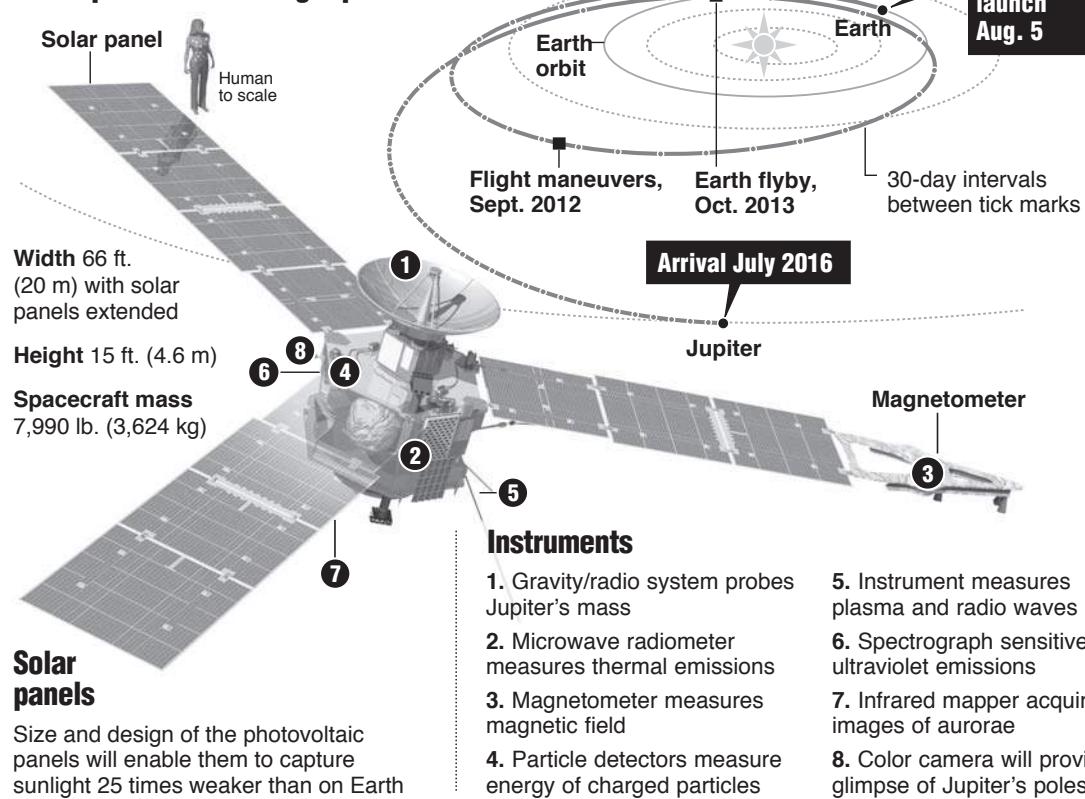
Juno can launch any time during a 22-day period, hitching a ride on an Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral in Florida.

Juno's solar panels, configured like three spokes of a Ferris wheel, will supply power to the craft as it journeys across 1.8 billion miles of space. The trip will take five years. By the fall of 2017, Juno is expected to have completed 34 elliptical, polar orbits around Jupiter. Its task complete, Juno will

Journey to Jupiter

After Juno reaches Jupiter in five years, it will spend a year studying the planet from its core to the outer reaches of its magnetic field—the strongest in the solar system.

Juno spacecraft and flight path



Solar panels

Size and design of the photovoltaic panels will enable them to capture sunlight 25 times weaker than on Earth

Jupiter's magnetosphere

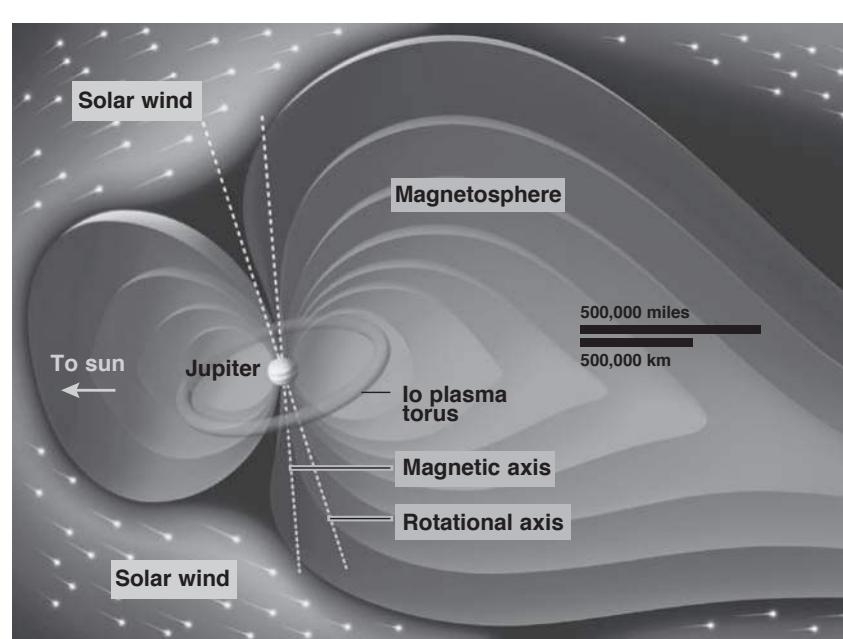
Will sample the charged particles of Jupiter's enormous magnetosphere, which stretches 600,000 to 2 million mi. (966,000-3.2 million km) toward the sun and tapers into a windsock-shaped tail about 600 million mi. (966 million km) toward Saturn

Solar wind contains charged particles ejected from the sun

Io plasma torus contains charged particles from the moon Io

Magnetic axis is tilted slightly relative to Jupiter's north and south poles

Source: NASA/JPL, planetaryexploration.net



Graphic: Doug Stevens, Julie Sheer, Los Angeles Times

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SUWASO

From Page 1

obligation with the Department of Public Lands if and when the lease is extended.

Lawmakers took turns asking Suwaso Corp.'s new owners, attorney Vince Torres, and DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta about the new investors' financial capability and their commitment to see the project through.

Japan-based investor Yusuke Fumoto, also a new co-owner of Suwaso Corp., along with other officials of the corporation, patiently waited in the gallery.

China-based investor Jia Tie Liang is the major financier of all infrastructure upgrades and improvements to Coral Ocean Point.

In the end, none of the lawmakers present in yesterday's joint session opposed Suwaso Corp.'s lease extension.

Torres, in a brief interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the vote, said he's "ready to work," is "excited," and thankful to the lawmakers.

"I am proud of our legislators who stood up and made a firm decision to support and encourage local investors along with foreign investors," Torres said.

Yesterday's joint session went ahead despite Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's request

to members of the House leadership to postpone a vote on the deal.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) confirmed that as late as 5pm, House Speaker Eli Cabrera (Ind-Rota) had asked for additional days—up until Wednesday—to hold the joint session, but even members of the House leadership wanted to go ahead with the session.

The session was originally set for 2pm, but didn't start until around 5:20pm because members of the House leadership didn't come out of the speaker's conference room until 5:15pm.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), in an interview after last night's session, said some members of the leadership raised a lot of concerns about Suwaso Corp.'s proposal during the three-hour closed-door meeting.

The approval of Suwaso's extended lease will pave the way for a \$22 million upgrade to Coral Ocean Point's hotel and golf course facilities and the construction of 200 new guest rooms.

The new owners also promised to settle the previous owners' debts to the CNMI government in tax arrears of almost \$1 million, and with other CNMI private and public agencies using an immediate infusion of \$7 million.

Disappointment

The House gallery was already

packed with members of the public even before the scheduled 2pm session but the public was made to wait for three hours—without warning from the House leadership—for the session to start.

Kevin C. Guerrero, of Obyan, said he made time to attend the joint session to show his support to Suwaso Corp., which he said is now under new ownership and management that includes members of the community. He said officials need to make the right decision, especially during these tough times.

Guerrero said he's disappointed that the House leadership made the public wait without giving courtesy or explanation.

"How can they help manage the economy when they can't even manage their time?" he asked in an interview while waiting for the session to start.

Edward C. Deleon Guerrero, also a community member, cited three main reasons for supporting Suwaso's lease extension, including the creation of employment opportunities, tourism destination enhancement, and increasing the CNMI's revenue base.

Nine members of the community stood up and addressed the lawmakers during the public comment period. All of the nine asked lawmakers to approve Suwaso Corp.'s lease extension.

How they voted

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) was the only one among 29 total CNMI lawmakers who was off-island and was therefore excused from the joint session.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Rota) left the Legislature even before the House leadership ended their closed-door meeting.

Torres, in a phone interview, said he didn't want to participate in the joint session when he said he found out that Suwaso still has an existing 15-year extension that was approved through a resolution approved in 1992.

"So why do we need to vote on a 15-year extension?" said Torres.

But DPL clarified during the joint session that there's no existing 15-year lease.

Of the 27 lawmakers present at the joint session, Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) abstained from voting, citing conflict of interest because he's the brother of one of the co-owners of Suwaso Corp.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan), who was accused by Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) of having a conflict of interest and shouldn't have been allowed to vote, said he didn't have a conflict of interest. But he voted "present."

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) ab-

stained from voting.

Besides Basa, other members of the House leadership raised the most questions and concerns about Suwaso Corp. But unlike Basa, they eventually voted "yes" on the lease extension. They included Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogu-moro (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan).

The crowd in the gallery applauded when Joint Session Resolution 17-5, Draft 1—which extends Suwaso's land lease by 15 years—passed by a vote of 24-0, with two abstentions, one voting "present," and two absences.

The area covered by Suwaso Corp.'s lease is composed of 735,023 square meters in Unai Dangkulu where Coral Ocean Point is located.

Any lease and extension of lease of public land consisting of more than 5 hectares requires legislative approval.

South Pacific Lumber

The Senate and House also approved South Pacific Lumber's proposed 15-year land lease extension for two of its leases in Lower Base.

Joint Session Resolution 17-4, Draft 1 passed by a vote of 24-0 with one abstention and four absences during the voting.

South Pacific Lumber's two separate 25-year leases won't expire until March 30, 2015 and Nov. 30, 2015.

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Anti-immigration laws prove to be counter-productive, harmful

(c) 2011, The Miami Herald

If nothing else, the hard-line immigration laws passed by some states recently may once again demonstrate the wisdom of an adage: Be careful what you wish for.

From Arizona to California to Georgia, a host of moderates and conservatives are lamenting the harmful, counter-productive effects of these laws.

Mayor Paul Bridges of the small farming community of Uvalda, Ga., could have been speaking for counterparts all over the country last week when he pleaded with a Senate panel for passage of an immigration reform bill. The draconian law passed in Georgia in lieu of action by Congress, he said, "will only devastate our local economies."

Georgia's farm workers are in the crosshairs of a new law that gives local police expanded powers to enforce immigration laws, and also targets anyone who gives undocumented immigrants a helping hand. These workers are critical to the state's \$6.5 billion agricultural economy, but many have chosen to look for work elsewhere. Though the law remains suspended due to a lawsuit, the Georgia Agribusiness Council reports that farms have already lost \$300 million due to a lack of workers and healthy crops have been left to rot in the field.

"This law isn't immigration reform," the mayor complained. "This law is government intrusion of the worst kind. It threatens our economy. It threatens our way of life. And it simply makes no sense." And that's the sworn testimony of a self-described "conservative Republican mayor" from Georgia.

The persistent myth that Americans are eager to replace immigrant workers, legal or not, is proving to be just that—a myth. The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reports farmers are finding that "replacing immigrant workers with native-born workers isn't easy; many new workers leave after only a day or two."

The picture is much the same in urban jobs. A survey by the Georgia Restaurant Association reveals widespread worker shortages in the state's \$14.1 billion restaurant industry since the new law was passed.

All the new state laws are under legal challenge and may yet be overturned, but that won't solve the problem. Until Congress comes up with a federal solution, more business losses and the lost revenue from taxes on immigrant wages will persist, hurting states and local communities. Reform should be a priority when Congress returns in September.



Panned parenthood: Honey, we ruined the kids

By PAUL AKERS
THE FREE LANCE-STAR (FREDERICKSBURG, VA.)

In a YMCA locker room some years ago I was toweling off as an attorney, loosening his tie, described to a friend his victory in a child-custody case earlier in the day, but not in a triumphal tone.

"What I really wanted to tell the judge," the lawyer said, "was to put the kid in foster care and not let either of these parents within 100 miles of him."

I recalled that comment while reading Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's majority opinion in *Brown v. EMA*, involving hyper-violent video games. In ruling that California could not forbid the sale of these games to minors, Scalia noted that "parents who care about the matter can readily evaluate the games their children bring home."

I don't know precisely how the family of Antonin Scalia functioned, but my assumption is that it was intellectually and morally refined, with the financial and human resources to fortify its elevated values. I know one of Justice Scalia's sons: Paul Scalia, a priest, is a man whom I like and, without reservation, respect. I would not be shocked if one day he made cardinal.

Most of the parents with whom I've come into contact during the last 30 years, through two sets of bambinas, were not raising cardinals. A few raised jailbirds. Many others inspired conversations between Mrs. Akers and me that began, "Can you believe..."

American parenting, like almost everything else in our unraveling land, is in decline. It's easy to see why, for reasons unrelated to a columnist's easy moralizing. One large factor is that there are fewer parents around. As Justice Stephen Breyer wrote in dissent, "Today, 5.3 million grade-school-age children of working parents are routinely home alone. Thus, it has, if anything, become more important to supplement parents' authority to guide their children's development."

Breyer might also have mentioned that one in four U.S. children is being raised by a single parent; that four in 10 American kids are born to a single mother; that the 40-year pounding of blue-collar wages has forced most married parents to work more jobs and more hours, leaving less time and energy for child supervision; and that the proliferation of image-receiving technology puts gizmos into little hands that many parents don't know how to turn on, much less monitor. In this milieu, the wonder is that any parents are able to effectively keep the dreck at bay.

But the main reason I have some sympathy for California's stricken law is that many parents have standards for what their kids consume that are so low you need a bathysphere to find them. The parents themselves are perfect Culture People, unmoored from age-old understandings of what is good and bad, edifying and debasing—jellyfish that float with the polluted tides of the popular culture with

no thought of growing some fins and striking out for bluer waters.

How else do you explain parents who let their 8-year-old sons wear ear studs like precocious pimps? Or who allow their 12-year-old daughters to leave the house in skirts that show more of their tail ends than a shrimp platter? Or who "ooh" and "ahh" with their preschooler in the checkout line over a tabloid cover featuring Lady Gaga? And these parents are supposed to protect their progeny from "games" in which players, assuming the role of sadistic killers, urinate on and set fire to bystanders?

There is now a show on one of the cable networks called "Toddlers & Tiaras," in which parents tart up their very small daughters, a la poor JonBenet Ramsey, and parade them competitively in "beauty" contests. As a Wikipedia article on these events notes, 5-year-olds "engage in behaviors and practices that are socially associated with sexiness: wearing heavy makeup to emphasize full lips, long eyelashes, and flushed cheeks, high heels to emulate adult women, and revealing 'evening gowns.'"

As our president says, let me be clear: In my America, parents who participated in such activities would be soundly caned and their filial victims delivered to the custody of Methodist parsons. As I have said many times, I would not be president for a million dollars but would serve as dictator for room and board.

The preceding opens up a broader topic. The editorial "voice," whether articulated by a liberal or a conservative newspaper, almost invariably addresses readers as though they are the benign and enlightened objects of bad behavior by some villainous elite—political, business, entertainment, or religious. But this is poor preaching—the sort that suggests all the problems lie with those other people, the ones outside the walls where the righteous gather. Good preaching, by contrast, lays it on the congregation and causes squirming in the pews.

So hear the Rev. Mr. Akers: The main problem with America is not Washington or Wall Street or Hollywood or a protected priestly bickerhood. The main problem, ladies and gentlemen, is us.

Too often and to the point of habit, we merrily enabled today's rich and powerful nogoodniks with our votes, purchases, and choices. Somewhere along the way we stopped being upright citizens governed by the wisdom of centuries, and devolved to mere consumers with the moral discernment of self-luxuriating children. We have pursued happiness of the glitzier kind and, like the out-of-luck mutt who chases the garbage truck one too many times, fatally caught it.

What would that lawyer at the Y say about many, many of us? Never mind raising kids. Good Lord, we've lost custody of ourselves.

Paul Akers is editor of the opinion pages of The Free Lance-Star (Fredericksburg, Va.). Readers may send him email at pakers@freelancestar.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Alos

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



That's pronounced "ah, luz" and it is the Ilokano term for something of value and function previously held and used by an older sibling and handed down to a younger one. Not quite as prosaic as the English "hand-me-down" but close enough.

When I was growing up as the older boy in the family, I always had things new, and physically not too distant from brother No. 2, we would be treated like identical twins, getting the same thing at the same time. Brother No. 3 not only get the hand-me-downs, he got two of them.

BTW, to be talking of Iloko in Hawaii is par for the course. The Tagalog-based Pilipino language, which is spoken around Manila and the capital region, is not the *lingua franca* of Pinoys in Aloha land. In fact, cultural anthropologists found out that to witness living authentic turn-of-the-20th century Ilokano cultural practices, one won't find it in the remote areas of Ilokandia in the Philippines; rather, one has to come to Hawaii to the isolated but self-sustained Ilokano villages of the migrant workers where the unadulterated Iloko—spoken fiercely independent and rebellious against Hispania—is still to be found.

Its unadulterated state also stems from the fact that when Ilokanos

were recruited to work the farmlands of California and the sugar-cane fields of Hawaii a century ago, they were picked up directly by ships in Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, and Currimao, Ilocos Norte, without having to go through metropolitan Manila.

The State of Hawaii, when it translates its rules and regulations, and laws into the dominant languages of its population, translates for the Filipino constituency an Iloko version. Eighty percent of Filipinos in Hawaii are conversant in Iloko, we are told. We bother with this detail to explain why "alos" is readily understandable and still widely used by Pinoys in Hawaii.

This highlights the fact that in our current pilgrimage, we are now experiencing the reverse flow of the "alos" from the youngest to the older ones. Four years my junior, I usually go through brother No. 3's stuff at my mother's house (he serves as the practical trustee to my mother's welfare in an elders' residential tower and splits his wardrobe between Mom's and his apartment) and pick out a couple of Armanis and Ralph Lauren outfits with a Bostonian loafer so I can strut down Beretania Avenue like I had just gotten off from teeing at the Country Club by Pali Highway!

In 1973 my Dad joined several church folks in an intensive six-week residential training program that promoted Christian resurgence in the context of being socially relevant for the times. In between the academic and rational part of the curriculum, we read portions of a Nikos Kazantzakis' poem, which was a passionate rendition of the insights of the evolutionary process already taken for granted in science, but elevating the biological metaphor to the level of the spirit journey. A section speaks of one generation being superseded by the next one, and my Dad stood up after the reading to declare that "this passage has come to fruition in your hearing this day."

Clearly, big brother is now on the receiving end of the "alos" line, and given our current mendicant monastic lifestyle, it is just as well. My younger brother has become the Michael Corleone figure in the godfather pecking order, and we are the grateful

recipients of his acts of grace.

Our mind headed this direction to wander how we treat the generational transition in our island life, especially now that the challenge provided by a new world of technology, politics, economics, and culture looms huge in our midst. We view the junior legislators' program as one of mirroring an old system without asking the more fundamental question of how we need to make decisions that are broader-based in participation, more comprehensive in context, and less pretentious in style.

The only model for education we have is to go to a classroom where an expert instructs us on the appropriate question and provide the right answer, and then tests our memory to determine whether we can recall what was taught. Standardized texts do not lend itself to critical thinking, nor individual initiative and entrepreneurship.

Our economy hinges on getting a job. We disdain menial labor and import workers for that. Our insecurities translate to lording it over those who are compliant to our wishes, and our sense of significance is polished by the certificates, awards, and trophies we garner; the common measure of income is not much of an option. That, or be the beauty queen during celebrations! The folks who are better at clerking sneer at our irrelevance and incompetence.

My Dad was exceptional in that he found his role in the period of transition as one bending backwards so that those coming along in the ascending line are facilitated and welcomed to take their place and new responsibilities. I was once asked while working with WorkHawaii, a workforce development agency, what I did in my job and I answered that I was working to get myself out of a job. We program our fading away, intentionally so, so that we may not hinder the ascension of those passionate enough to address the issues we were dealing with and bring new insight into the enterprise.

"Alos" is the passing on, handing down things of value. Do we have the cultural confidence to recognize that it is time to pass the torch?

Can we even govern ourselves?

By PETER GOLDMARK

Newsday

Peter Goldmark, a former publisher of the International Herald Tribune, headed the climate program at the Environmental Defense Fund. He wrote this for Newsday.



The big spending increases go for health care and payments to the elderly and others in need of support. So, bringing revenue and expenditures into balance isn't just a matter of closing down a few bridges to nowhere or cutting a new fighter the Pentagon wants; it requires fundamentally restructuring our basic support for the retired and the ill.

The extremist Republicans in the House want no tax increases. But they are not willing to make, and find no support for, the drastic spending cuts required by a revenue freeze. It's no accident that the budget proposals they put forward never add up.

What's at issue is whether we can govern ourselves. If we run up our national debt, like Greece, until it overwhelms us, people who lend to us will charge much higher interest rates (making it even harder to trim the deficit), and then some day they will not lend to us at all. Imagine a meeting of the Chinese politburo where they debate what kind of austerity measures to demand in return for a U.S. bailout.

The Republican extremists in the House are bringing us to the brink of disaster with their rigid ideology and have dabbled with the numbers to obscure the cost and consequences of their untested ideas. But they have been right on one important point: The deficit must be addressed. One other consistent point of view has been present in this debate. New York Times columnist Paul Krugman and others have argued that the biggest economic problem we face

is unemployment, not the deficit, and that just slashing spending will create more unemployment, reduce government revenue, and set us back rather than move us forward.

I believe that point of view is essentially correct. The right answer isn't to strangle the flow of money and jobs from the public sector, which all together accounts for about 40 percent of our gross domestic product. We need to keep those jobs and cash flows moving through the economy, but at the same time level off and then reduce the deficit.

That's the only course that will both produce economic stability and command financial confidence from the markets that finance our deficit.

But the only way to keep paychecks and investment flowing and reduce the deficit is to raise new revenue. That means going after the special interests: doing away with loopholes, tax subsidies for corporations and tax breaks for the rich. And it also means raising new taxes, because the damage we have to repair has already been done. And no one in the United States today, from the president on down, knows how to get Congress to adopt such a course.

The alternative is essentially to let the American economic governmental enterprise crumble. You cannot drill huge holes in the bottom of the ship and then say your plan to keep it afloat is to chop up the rest of the ship. There's no choice but to face the music, and the sooner we get started the better.

You've read about cults that lose touch with reality and gather on some hilltop to greet the end of the world.

We have a large cult-like group in the House of Representatives who have lost touch with economic reality and whose delusions may cause the country they say they love in calculable harm.

Even with a last-minute deal between Congress and the president to wriggle past Tuesday's debt deadline, "wriggling" doesn't count for much in the world of credit and markets. The core problem remains and we'll continue to pay through the nose until we address it.

The elements of that core problem are: The U.S. government is spending too much, taking in too little, and therefore borrowing more at the very moment when its creditworthiness is in question.

Lasting legacy of Afghan wars: Deaths due to landmines

By ABDOL WAHED FARAMARZ

THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

KABUL, Afghanistan—Sitting in the shade of a tree in the Kabul children's hospital, Karimullah recalls the exact moment his young son was injured in a mine blast. Two weeks earlier, the boy had been playing with other children in their village in the Qara Bagh district of Ghazni province, south of the Afghan capital, when Karimullah heard a loud explosion and rushed to the scene.

"When we got there, four children were dead and 10 others were injured, including my son," Karimullah said. His son's injuries were so serious that he had to come to the capital for treatment.

"The mine was left over from the civil war in the 1990s," he said, adding that despite several similar explosions in the area, local officials had done little to address the menace.

Afghanistan's landmine legacy dates from the arrival of Soviet forces in 1979. Defense ministry spokesman Gen. Zaher Azimi said the mines were planted in many areas, particularly around military camps and checkpoints.

After the Soviets left in 1989, more mines were planted by both sides of the civil war that followed, making Afghanistan one of the most heavily mined countries in the world.

Many minefields were left unmarked and forgotten. Sometimes, anti-personnel and anti-tank mines were dug up and moved for reuse in new conflicts. Meanwhile, unexploded ordinance from more than three decades of conflict also pose a serious threat.

During the latest conflict, in addition to planting landmines, the Taliban have made extensive use of improvised explosive devices, or roadside bombs, adding to the existing threat.

Dayem Kakar, the head of Afghanistan's Natural Disaster Management Authority, the agency charged with landmine removal, says 1 million people have been killed or disabled by the hidden weapons over the past three decades of war. An additional 3 million are still at risk from living near minefields.

Mohammed Haidar Reza, head of the United Nations' Mine Action Center for Afghanistan, said that although the number of casualties had fallen over the years, there was no prospect of the landmine threat being eliminated in the foreseeable future.

Landmines and IEDs, are responsible for an average of 52 casu-

alties per month, according to the center. Although foreign donors have contributed around \$700 million to mine-removal projects, Reza says more financial support is needed to finance the 11 mine-clearing agencies currently working in Afghanistan and employing nearly 14,000 people.

Mohammad Shahab Hakimi, director of the Mine Detection Dog Center, said 70 percent of the 16,000 known mine fields have been cleared, with a total of 2 million mines defused so far. In the process 1,200 mine-clearance workers have been killed or injured.

But there's much work still to be done, with both known and unmarked mine fields still to be cleared. Hakimi said the remaining work would take an additional three to six years.

"In some parts of the country, we're unable to clear minefields because of warfare or lack of security," he said. "In addition, mines have been re-planted in areas that have already been cleared."

Abdol Wahed Faramarz is a reporter in Afghanistan who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Yap	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 82 ▼ 75
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲ 59 ▼ 53
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 92 ▼ 84
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 75
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 81 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 43
Miami	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 80
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 73
Osaka	Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 78
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 56
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 68
Salem	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 56
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 55
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 79

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:00 AM	6:45 PM	Today	11:59 AM	11:42 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM	Sunday	1:00 PM	
Monday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM	Monday	1:59 PM	12:36 AM
Tuesday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM	Tuesday	2:57 PM	1:32 AM
Wednesday	6:01 AM	6:43 PM	Wednesday	3:52 PM	2:29 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

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ISLAND SNAPSHTOS

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 4, 2011

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS		
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)		
C09314 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5			C09315 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5		
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)		
C09315 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5			C09314 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
C09317 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7			C09314 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP		
C09315 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP			C09316 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6			C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6		
C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7			C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7			5K389 1:35pm 2:25pm 1, 4, 6		
5K382 8:45pm 9:35pm 2, 5, 7			C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7		
C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily			C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily		
C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily			C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily		
SAIPAN-Osaka (KIX)			OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN		
02119 4:00am 6:40am Daily			02120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily			DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily		
DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily			DL288 8:05pm 12:45am+1 Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
02606 2:20am 6:00am 1			02603 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7		
02606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			02120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX		
02119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX			02605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7		
02604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7			02605 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN		
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6					

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral

Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center

Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish

Sunday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish

Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish

Monday-Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish

Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota

Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota

Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish

Monday-Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday-Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday-Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish

Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's

Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

PROTESTANT

(Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church

Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Santa Remedios

Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday-Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30am-12pm

Immanuel Methodist Church

(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal 8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Amen Church

Sunday: 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday: 7pm Friday Prayer: 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice: 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation: 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach: 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email: oseyo@daum.net

Born Again Christian

(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8:10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9:20am Sunday Adult: 11am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan

English Worship Service: 9:10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9:10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm

Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry

Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church

Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd.
Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1
Contact Nick for more info: 287-1661

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 9:11am Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)

GBI Classes: 4-6pm

Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan

Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm

Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ

Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 10-11am Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church

(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan

(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville

Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am Morning worship 10:00am Evening service 6:00pm Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services

Sunday morning 10:00am Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.
Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan

Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times

Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries

Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer 7am-9am English service 7am-9am Sunday school 10am-12noon English service, Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church

Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship: 10:30am Sunday PM Worship: 7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Victorious Christian Church

(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Saipan Christian Church

Sunday: 7:30am-10am

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 6, 2007

Govt lawsuit vs CUC dismissed

The Superior Court has dismissed the government's controversial lawsuit against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. after the parties finally reached a settlement agreement. According to the settlement agreement, the government paid CUC \$47.8 million from May 2004 to Sept. 2006. "For good cause shown and pursuant to stipulation and settlement agreement of the parties, this action is hereby dismissed with prejudice," said the order issued on Friday by associate judge David A. Wiseman.

14 more file for candidacy

Two incumbent senators and several failed candidates from the 2005 election are among the individuals who filed for candidacy over the weekend. In addition to the 18 candidates reported earlier, at least 14 others have submitted their candidacy documents with the Commonwealth Election Commission. The month-long period for submitting nominating petitions and candidacy documents will end today, Aug. 6, 2007.

August 6, 2008

GAO: Local GDP could plunge

Pointing to findings they say will harm the CNMI's economy, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and officials in his administration are blasting a report released yesterday by the Government Accountability Office that details several scenarios on the impact of the pending federal takeover of local immigration rules and includes projections that suggest it could slash the Commonwealth's gross domestic product by 50 percent or more. The GAO report recommends that federal agencies "identify an interagency process to jointly implement" the new federalization law and that the agencies work together to "develop strategies to obtain critical data on the CNMI labor market and foreign investment."

'Guam would need 12,000 alien workers'

About 12,000 guest workers and an estimated 5,000 CNMI residents are needed for the upcoming U.S. military buildup in Guam, according to a visiting U.S. military official. Lt. Col. Rudy R. Kube, operations director for the U.S. Marine Corps Joint Guam Program Office, said yesterday that the foreign workers will not necessarily be Filipinos, but that the Philippines is traditionally one of the sources of manpower for the construction sector.

August 6, 2009

Villagomez gets 7-year sentence

The federal court sentenced former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez yesterday to seven years and three months in prison for his role in the Rydlyme corruption scandal. His sister, former Commonwealth Ports Authority human resources manager Joaquina V. Santos, and her husband, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, were sentenced to six years and six months in prison each for their involvement in the scheme to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the United States.

\$23.3M now in the bag

The CNMI has so far received \$52.4 million in total notification of federal stimulus fund award, lagging behind four other insular areas such as American Samoa (\$67.7 million), U.S. Virgin Islands (\$131.3 million), Guam (\$152 million) and Puerto Rico (\$3.38 billion), latest local and federal data shows. Commerce Secretary Michael J. Ada, however, said the CNMI is expected to have an additional award notification for \$44.3 million in state fiscal stabilization fund for a total of \$96.7 million by the end of this month.

August 6, 2010

'CNMI still needs foreign workers'

If there's one thing that the public and government officials agree on after seven public hearings, it's this: The CNMI will still need foreign workers beyond 2014 when the transition to federal immigration ends. But there's no unified position as to what immigration status should be given to long-term guest workers. The seven public hearings between June 23 and Aug. 4 also drew split reaction to the U.S. Department of the Interior report: support and opposition.

Maharlika

I consider myself fortunate to have been able to travel to several Asian destinations with loved ones long before traveling became mainstream for a lot of Filipinos. I say mainstream because these days, going on vacations—whether by yourself, with friends, or family—usually means going to Disneyland in Hong Kong, Sentosa island in Singapore, or the Elephant Nature Park in Thailand.

More and more Filipinos, however, are getting their wanderlust satiated by just traveling to any of the over 7,000 islands that make up their beloved Philippines. Having worked away from home for a number of years, I couldn't help but feel envious whenever I see my cousins and friends post photos that paint a thousand words about their most recent voyages to Palawan, Davao, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, or Mountain Province. You name the province or island and chances are, they've been there.

"I, too, will see the wonders of my own country someday," I told myself.

And it dawned on me that I could actually do it for my 2011 vacation if I worked on making it happen in advance! The idea got me so excited that my significant other and I brainstormed on our destination choice. Bohol topped our list because neither of us had been there. And given that I've heard great things about this province in the Visayas, I was able to convince him that this was going to be it.

It was right after the Fourth of July festivities when I packed my bags and boarded my flight to Manila. Three days after, I met with him and the next day, we were bound for Bohol. It was my first time at the Terminal 3 of Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Pasay and it was packed with travelers, local and foreign alike, who were raring to go to their destination and be astonished by its natural beauty.

We boarded a Cebu Pacific flight, which, much to our dismay, no longer had the dancing flight attendant gimmick. Our excitement, nonetheless, didn't wane as we sat comfortably in our seats. Less than two hours later, our flight landed in Bohol's main airport in Tagbilaran City.

The tenth largest island in the Philippines, Bohol attracts scores of tourists all year round and is known as the land of Chocolate Hills. Its provincial capital, Tagbilaran City, possesses the usual hullabaloo inherent in a city: heavy traffic, crowded malls, and tons of dining choices.

Passengers who disembarked the flight were greeted by hotel staff and tour agents holding placards with passenger names, eager to welcome their respective customers with Boholano warmth and hospitality. We easily spotted ours, the male Vesta Pension House staffer clutching a sign that said "Clarissa David & Co.," who gladly took our heavy luggage and put them in the back of a van.

We were so thrilled to be in Bohol that instead of unpacking our stuff, we got out of Vesta right away and rode a tricycle (my SO's first time; good thing he fit inside) to scout for a good place to eat. We were in the mood for grilled food so we asked the amiable receptionist where to go. She suggested the restaurants along the pier and off we went there.

However, we saw these cinderella stalls—or *turo-turo* as we call it—on the other side of the road. Good thing we decided to check it out because it

was street food heaven: grilled *isaw* (chicken intestines), chicken feet, *bati-colon* (chicken gizzards), chicken neck and quarters. Seeing my companion, all the *tindera* were trying to lure us to dine at their stall. We settled with one affable-looking *ate* who did not disappoint us with our well-done *isaw* and chicken leg and an ice-cold 1L bottle of Red Horse: our first meal in Bohol.

After that satisfying meal, we wan-

giant who was not able to find the love of his life. It was at the lookout where we chanced upon our friends Macoi and Rob who were in Bohol for a day tour before heading back to Cebu.

Edward then took us to the Ship Haus, a house shaped like a huge water vessel built by Capt. Gaudencio Tiongoco Dumapias from earnings as a master mariner. According to some of the staff, the Ship Haus was "taken" by the

Island, which was only a few kilometers southwest of Bohol and is connected to the city by a causeway.

I was quite disappointed with Alona Beach, the island's most popular beach, as I found it too commercialized for my taste. Motorboats used for island hopping crowded the beach waters, which was home to lots of sea grass as well. I felt like I was a child who was told that Santa Claus wasn't real.

tour guide who, while welcoming tourists inside the cave, would warn them, "Watch your head! Watch your head! Have mercy to the stone!"

We also rode to the Bohol Bee Farm, owned and managed by a husband-and-wife tandem, where we tasted and bought pesto and honey spreads. They also take pride in their restaurant where we got to eat flowers—yes, flowers—in our salad. "They don't just give color to the salad. They're actually edible," said Bong, the farm guide. The salad was, indeed, pleasing to the palate.

A trip to Panglao also calls for an island hopping tour. Upon our arrival in Panglao, we were approached by Jane, a petite and pregnant lady who had a very sweet aura that we couldn't say no to her. We set the date and time; we left Panglao at 5:45am to start the tour. Our quiet boat captain and guide took us dolphin watching between Panglao and Balicasag islands. For someone who doesn't know how to swim and has not seen marine life beyond six feet from the shore, it was an incredible sight. Schools of dolphins surrounded numerous boats early in the morning and gave its passengers a wonderful show.

Balicasag Island was a far better place to swim in. We had a fantastic time in the waters, after which we had our breakfast of coffee, grilled fresh fish, and ripe mango. It was splendid. We then proceeded to Virgin Island, which wasn't so virgin at all because of all the trash; some were left behind visitors, while others drifted in from some far-off places.

Danao adventure

We finished our Bohol trip with a three-hour trip to Danao, a municipality in the northern part of Bohol, for the adventure of a lifetime. My best friend Mheng recommended that I take my guest to the Danao Adventure Park, which is becoming popular as an eco-adventure site in Bohol.

Once we arrived there, thanks to our tour guide/driver Elmer, we were greeted by the staff who at once asked me if I wanted to do the Plunge, the canyon swing attraction that involves 70 meters of freefall. I researched about it before our vacation and I must say, it's not for the faint of heart. It's certainly not for me.

But we were already there, not to mention the fact that I felt challenged when the staff told me that their youngest Plunge taker was a 7-year-old boy. We decided to do the zipline first, since I've been wanting to do it after seeing it in the news, and also to sort of prepare for The Plunge. We went together the first time then we went solo going back. It was scary, but I managed to survive.

The Plunge, on the other hand, was totally different. While in the zipline, I could hear shrieks from people doing or watching the Plunge. "You can do it," Elmer kept telling me, although it was of little help. They put the gear on me, and the male staff asked me if I wanted to do it right side up or upside down.

Before I knew it, I could hear the guy do the countdown: "tres... dos... uno... bombs away!" It was the longest and scariest two to three seconds of my life. But I'm proud that I did it as I received a certificate that basically says I survived it (So far, nobody has gotten into an accident doing it).

Bohol, check. Now I can't wait for my next vacation.



The author has her picture taken in front of the renowned Chocolate Hills, thousands of cone-shaped hills caused by an unusual geographic formation.

Bohol adventure: Seeing the wonders of my own country

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

dered aimlessly, realizing more and more that a lot of places we need like restaurants and malls are accessible on foot.

Countryside tour

The next day, we woke up early to avail of our free breakfast at Vesta in preparation for a long, touristy day: we were scheduled to have our countryside tour. Our tour guide and driver, Edward, showed up with an SUV to take us around the famous sites in Bohol. Our first stop was the site of the Blood Compact between Datu Sikatuna and Miguel Lopez de Legaspi. It was where I learned how knowledgeable Edward was, not just about the story of the two historical figures but also how experienced he was in taking photos of his clients. "I've had previous customers who are good photographers and they taught me how to take photos," he revealed.

We went to Baclayon Church, one of the oldest in the Philippines, and the Man-Made Forest, where rows of uniformed mahogany trees line up on either side of the road between the towns of Loboc and Bilar. Our next stop was the lookout of the renowned Chocolate Hills, thousands of cone-shaped hills caused by an unusual geographic formation.

According to Edward, the government to be used as another tourist attraction for Bohol since it draws a lot of visitors regularly.

We stopped by the Hanging Bridge, a bridge made of bamboo that creaked every time people cross it, before we headed out to the Loboc River Cruise to have our lunch. It was a simple buffet shared by mostly foreigners while listening to a local guy croon old hits.

After the lunch cruise, we got an up close look at the famous tarsiers; they looked so fragile that it made me a little nervous to hold them. I was amazed at how they could turn their heads 180 degrees—like a scene straight out of *The Exorcist*.

On our way to the next stop, my SO was astounded to see one *habal-habal* (motorcycle) with six passengers—two adults and four youngsters, including the driver. He said he and his friends always complain about not being able to fit everyone in a truck while in the Philippines, they can do wonders with a motorcycle. Laughing, I replied, "Only in the Philippines." He took several photos, which he showed his friends when he went back to California.

Panglao visit

Our Bohol trip wouldn't have been complete without going to see Panglao

While the main beach was a total letdown, I was taken by the slow, easygoing lifestyle on Panglao and the friendliness of its people. We stayed at Oasis Resort, which lived up to its name with its rows of lovely nipa hut accommodations, palm trees, and a private swimming pool. The gracious staff took good care of us, from breakfast to happy hour. In fact, it was Pangs, the security guard, who rented us his brand new Honda motorbike so we could tour the island.

The bike ride was invigorating for someone like me who doesn't live on the edge. Along the way, my driver gained lots of monikers from the locals. They would yell, "Hey, Joe!" or "Hello, Daddy!" much to his delight. One time, a young boy called out to him and shouted, "Give me money!" Our most favorite remark was from a boy who strutted, like a little kid trying to be cool in the company of adults. He walked up to us and greeted my driver nonchalantly while we were walking to our bike, "Hey man!" It was hilarious.

Our bike rides got us cruising around the island before reaching Hinagdanan Cave, a limestone cave famous for its stalactites. The water was ice cold and deep yet the most unforgettable thing for me during the cave visit was the

Prayer forum for Spratlys peace on Aug. 21 in Marianas

The U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance has organized a Prayer Forum for Peace in the Spratlys, a non-political, non-religious event that will be held on Aug. 21, 2011, all over the United States (target 100 cities in 50 states), the CNMI, Guam, the Philippines and other countries, to ask for Divine Assistance in the peaceful and just resolution of issues over Spratlys between China and the Philippines.

Aug. 21 was chosen because it is the 28th death anniversary of the late martyr, Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino, an overseas Filipino himself for the last three years of his life, whose deep love for the Philippines, heroism, and patriotism have inspired Filipinos to express concerns for the developments in the Spratlys.

In the CNMI, the event will be held on Sunday, Aug. 21, 2011, from 1:30pm to 5pm at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Saipan, followed by a Holy Mass at 6pm at the Kristo Rai

Church in Garapan. Christian churches such as Cornerstone Christian Church and Blessed Temple Christian Fellowship will also offer services on Aug. 21 for the event. The El Shaddai Tinian Chapter under the leadership of Bro. Ping de Leon expressed support by offering Mass for these events at 6pm at the San Jose Church.

On Rota, Ali Badiles, president of Filipino Community of Rota, confirmed support and will offer an 8am Mass at San Francisco de Borja followed by a mini-version of the Prayer Forum for Peace at the Round House from 9am to 11am at Songsong Village, Rota.

"We have prepared activities such as opening and closing prayers for peace (a universal ecumenical prayer that was sent from the New York headquarters), and invited speakers for the Forum who will talk about the life and legacy of late martyr hero Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino and their insights and thoughts on the peaceful resolution



Lamkin

of Spratlys issues," said Dr. Celia B. Lamkin, the overall coordinator in the CNMI, Guam and Hawaii of the Organizing Committee Prayer for Peace in the Spratlys.

The invited speakers are Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Delegate Gregorio Kilili

C. Sablan, Senate President Paul A. Manglona, Consul General Medardo Macaraig, Rep. Ray N. Yumul, former lawmaker Tina Sablan, community activist Ed Propst, Fr. Ryan Jimenez, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Gonzales, Pastor Manuelito Rey, and Pastor Ray Kinsella. Gonzales, Rey, and Manglona have already confirmed.

In addition, there will be Filipino cultural performances (dances, band, patriotic Filipino songs, tribute to Ninoy Aquino (video presentation about Ninoy) and a video about the Spratlys.

Local community and religious organizations that have confirmed their support for this event are the US Pinoys for Good Governance (CNMI Chapter); Cornerstone Christian Church; Saipan Building and Fixing Computers; CREAM; Dekada; Jesus is Lord Church; Blessed Temple Christian Fellowship; FILCOM; UP Alumni Association (Saipan Chapter); Filipino

Community of Rota; and El Shaddai Tinian Chapter

In Guam, Sen. Sam Mabini of the 31st Guam Legislature is spearheading the activities, together with the United Samar Association of Guam and the Filipino Community of Guam. The Filipino Community of Hawaii, which is composed of 250 Filipino-American senior citizens, supports this event.

Globally, around 58 sites in 19 state/countries have so far registered to join the Prayer Forum in Aug 21.

"We would like to thank TSL Foundation and Coca Cola Beverage Co., Inc. for supporting this event," said Lamkin, who is also president of the US Pinoys for Good Governance-CNMI Chapter.

"Individuals and organizations are cordially invited. The general public is cordially invited and let us all pray together for a peaceful and just resolution for the Spratlys issues and global peace," she added. (PR)

Philippine president meets Muslim rebel chief

By OLIVER TEVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III has met with the



chief of the country's main Muslim rebel group to boost negotiations on ending its decades-long insurgency, officials said Friday.

Aquino held talks with Murad Ibrahim of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in a suburb of Tokyo late Thursday and discussed ways to push the peace process forward, presidential peace adviser Teresita Deles said.

It was the first time that a Philippine president has met with the chairman of the rebel group since on-and-off peace talks started 14 years ago, officials said.

Ghadzali Jaafar, the rebel group's vice chairman, said the meeting was fruitful. "The government is serious in looking for a genuine solution to the problem," he said.

Aquino, who has been in office for a year, has placed a high

priority on settling the country's long-running Muslim and communist insurgencies. His proposal for an informal meeting with Murad was conveyed to rebel peace negotiators during a meeting in Malaysia in June, officials said.

Malaysia is brokering the peace talks and Japan is a member of an international monitoring team observing a cease-fire between government and rebel forces.

The 11,000-strong rebel group has waged a bloody insurgency for self-rule in the southern Mindanao region, the homeland of minority Muslims in the predominantly Roman Catholic country.

Chief government negotiator Marvic Leonen said Thursday's meeting was "cordial but consisted of a frank and candid exchange of their views about the frames of the continuing

peace talks and some possible approaches that the parties can take to bring about a peaceful settlement."

"Both agreed that the implementation of any agreement should happen within the current administration. Both agreed to fast-track the negotiations," Leonen said.

The last major clashes between government and rebel forces followed the rejection by the Supreme Court of a proposed preliminary peace agreement in August 2008 on grounds that it was unconstitutional.

More than 700,000 people were displaced before the fighting subsided and the two sides agreed to resume talks, with the first meeting held in February.

The conflict has killed more than 120,000 people and stunted development of the resource-rich southern Mindanao region.

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ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANAS ISLANDS

ALICE B. DELEON	CIVIL ACTION
GUERRERO,	NO. 10-0347
dba A & A APARTMENTS,	SUMMONS
Plaintiff,	FOR
-v-	PUBLICATION
ERIC NGIRABABUL,	
Defendant.	

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

DATED, this 19th day of July, 2011:

/s/ Clerk of Court

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NMHC RFP 2011-011



Financial & Compliance Audit for FY 2011 & 2012

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

The Corporate Director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), a subsidiary corporation of the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is soliciting sealed proposals to perform a financial and compliance audit of NMHC for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2011 and 2012. This procurement is being conducted pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIA Chapter 70-30.3, specifically § 70-30.3-210).

One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked/stamped "Confidential" and labeled "NMHC RFP 2011-011" for FY 2011 and 2012 Audit Proposal to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m., September 30, 2011.

The audit guidelines and specifications for this audit may be picked up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI Holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager, at telephone numbers (670) 234-6866/7689, fax 234-9021 or email jskaipat@nmhcgov.net.

/S/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director, Procurement & Supply

IMMIGRATION LAW

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Samut'Sari

**MAEDA ON THE MOVE!**

Maeda Pacific Corp. executives and employees hold a dinner meeting Wednesday night at CoCo Restaurant in Garapan. Photo shows Maeda Pacific Corp.'s president Tom Nielsen, second right, MPC's (Saipan) engineers Ricky, Randy, Jojo and Cleto, MPC's (Guam) administrative manager Hironori Kikuchi, left, Kanji Suzuki, Maeda Road Construction director of management, second left, and Atsushi Miyazaki, Maeda Road Construction accounting manager.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**UNIVERSITY SINGERS BRING HOME GOLD**

The University of Guam Singers under the direction of music professor Randall Johnson won the gold medal in the Grand Prix Pattaya 4th International Choir Festival in Thailand. The University Singers won the gold in the Spiritual, Gospel, Jazz category on July 31. The University Singers won the silver medal last summer in a music festival in the Czech Republic. University Singers are pictured in the center of the photograph surrounded by their counterparts from Thailand.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maeda Pacific Corp. executives and employees pose for the camera during a dinner meeting Wednesday night at CoCo Restaurant in Garapan. Part of the officials' trip is to visit all MPC's ongoing Guam and Saipan projects and to discuss how to improve the construction and waste management business on Saipan and Guam.

**HAPPY TO BE HERE**

Visiting students from Korea look meet with Senate President Paul Manglona on Tuesday on Capital Hill, as part of the Western International School of Excellence's summer camp program, which helps Korean students improve their English language skills and know more about foreign cultures, among other things. The students also met with other senators and House of Representatives members.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

**NEW PSS OFFICES**

This 15-classroom building at Marianas High School is being readied for the upcoming transfer of the Public School System central offices from the Retirement Fund building on Capital Hill. MHS acting principal Cherlyn Cabrera told Saipan Tribune that the school gave its Building F for the use of PSS starting Aug. 15, the target relocation date of the central office to the campus.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

Happy 9th birthday to our little man, Koby Taro Nepai! We love you so much and we hope you enjoy your day of fun in the sun. Cheeeehooooo! Greetings come from Mom and Dad.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Dow falls 512 in steepest decline since '08 crisis

By DAVID K. RANDALL
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Gripped by fear of a new recession, Wall Street suffered its worst day Thursday since the financial crisis in the fall of 2008. The firestorm of selling that erased more than 500 points off the Dow Jones industrial average then spread overseas.

The sell-off wiped out the Dow's remaining gains for 2011. It put the Dow and broader stock indexes into what investors call a correction—down 10 percent from their highs in the spring.

In Friday trading in Asia, Ja-

pan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average was down more than 3 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng shed 4 percent.

"We are continuing to be bombarded by worries about the global economy," said Bill Stone, the chief investment strategist for PNC Financial.

Across the financial markets, the day was reminiscent of the wild swings that defined the financial crisis in September and October three years ago. Gold prices briefly hit a record high. Oil fell even more than stocks—6 percent, or \$5.30 a barrel. And frightened investors were so desperate to get into

some government bonds that they were willing to accept almost no return on their money.

It was the most alarming day yet in the almost uninterrupted selling that has swept Wall Street for two weeks. The Dow has lost more than 1,300 points, or 10.5 percent. By one broad measure kept by Dow Jones, almost \$1.9 trillion in market value has disappeared.

For the day, the Dow closed down 512.76 points, at 11,383.68. It was the steepest point decline since Dec. 1, 2008.

Thursday's decline was the ninth-worst by points for the Dow. In percentage terms, the

Wall Street plunge could worsen economy's troubles

WASHINGTON (AP)—The two-week plunge in stock prices is signaling economic anxiety, but it's also compounding the problem: Lower stock prices are shrinking Americans' wealth, rattling their confidence and making them less inclined to spend.

And employers may become even slower to hire.

The Dow Jones industrial average plummeted 513 points, or 4 percent, Thursday on fears about the U.S. economy and the debt crisis in Europe. The major stock indexes have sunk more than 10 percent from their previous highs.

Economists say sustained drops in stock prices tend to suppress consumer spending as people see their wealth shrink. And consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of economic activity.

The drop in stock prices could especially slow spending by upper-income Americans. Eighty percent of stocks belong to the richest 10 percent of Americans. And the richest 20 percent of Americans account for about 40 percent of consumer spending, says Michael Niemira, chief economist at the International Council of Shopping Centers.

The drop in stocks "will have repercussions back on the economy," says Barry Bosworth, an economist at the Brookings Institution who has studied the link between stock market performance and consumer spending.

All this comes just as fears of another recession are rising. Many consumers, their wages devoured by high gasoline and food prices, are pinching pennies: In June, they reduced spending for the first time in 20

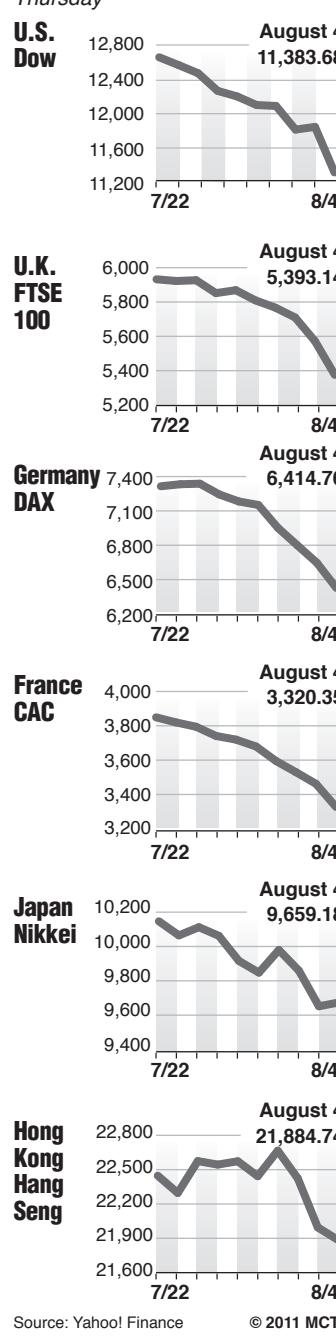
months, the government said this week.

Cato Corp., which sells budget-priced women's clothing,

Global rout

Prices at close

Thursday



said Thursday that revenue at stores open at least a year fell 3 percent in July. CEO John Cato said the results "reflect the difficult economic conditions and uncertainty affecting our customers."

Luxury retailers like Tiffany & Co. and Saks Fifth Avenue have remained a bastion of strength. They benefited from a stock rally that started a year ago and made wealthy households even wealthier and willing to spend. MasterCard Advisors SpendingPulse says its index of luxury sales at restaurants, food boutiques, department stores and clothiers, surged 12 percent last month.

But the Dow's plunge could now threaten upscale retailers. The economy, Niemira notes, is "more dependent on spending at the high end so (a drop in luxury sales) could have a bigger effect."

But James Rushing, a vice president in the retail practice at the consultancy A.T. Kearney, expects high-end shoppers to keep spending. True, they slashed spending during the financial crisis a couple of years ago. But he says they've grown used to bad economic news and are unfazed by the stock market's short-term gyrations.

"The question is, how long of a funk do you have to have before those higher-end consumers" scale back spending? says Doug Hart, a partner in the retail practice of BDO USA.

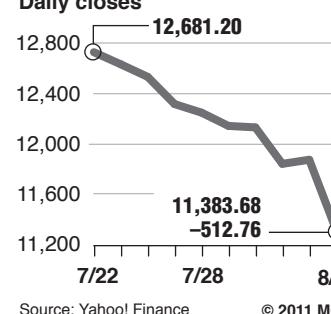
The stock market still has plenty to worry about.

Cracks in the European financial system widened further Thursday as investors worried that Italy and Spain would be unable to pay their debts.

Selloff

The Dow plunged more than 500 points Thursday, as investors worried about the global economy.

Daily closes



ceiling was raised, investors focused on the economy, and the selling accelerated.

On Thursday, growing fear about the weakening U.S. economy was joined by concern in Europe that the troubled economies of Italy and Spain might need help from the European Union.

The European Union has already given financial assistance to Greece and Ireland, two countries that have struggled to pay their debts. A financial rescue package for Italy or Spain might be more than the group of countries can handle.

Traders also unloaded stocks before Friday's release of the government's unemployment report for July, which is expected to show weak job growth and perhaps a rise in the unemployment rate, which is 9.2 percent.

Together, they produced "a perfect storm of selling," said Ryan Larson, head of U.S. equity trading for RBC Global Asset Management.

Until a week ago, Wall Street had mostly convinced itself that the U.S. economy would improve in the second half of the year. Gas prices were falling, and Japanese factories were resuming production after disruptions from the March earthquake.

Then one report after another began to show that the economy was much weaker than first thought.

Manufacturing is barely growing. The service sector, which covers about 90 percent of the American work force, is growing at the slowest rate in a year and a half. People spent less in June than in May, the first decline since September 2009.



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011 in New York. The Dow plunged nearly 513 points Thursday, its biggest point decline since Oct. 22, 2008.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil near \$86 as outlook for crude demand dims

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices extended sharp losses to near \$86 a barrel Friday in Asia amid expectations a slowing global economy will weaken demand for crude. Benchmark oil for September delivery was down 39 cents to \$86.24 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Crude tumbled \$5.30 to settle at \$86.63 on Thursday. In London, Brent crude was up 25 cents at \$107.50 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange. Oil and other commodities were dragged down by a plunge in global stock markets as traders lost confidence in U.S. economic growth. Some analysts point to growing crude consumption and robust economic growth in emerging markets to suggest supply and demand fundamentals don't justify the drop in oil prices from \$100 two weeks ago.

Reid: Congress reaches deal to end FAA shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress has reached a bipartisan compromise to end a two-week partial shutdown of the Federal Aviation Administration that has idled tens of thousands of workers and cost the government about \$30 million a day in uncollected airline ticket taxes, Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid said Thursday. The deal would allow the Senate to approve a House bill extending the FAA's operating authority through mid-September, including a provision that eliminates \$16.5 million in air service subsidies to 13 rural communities. Passage of the bill is expected Friday. Senators have scattered for their August recess, but the measure can be approved if leaders from both parties agree to adopt it by "unanimous consent." Republicans had insisted on the subsidy cuts as their price for restoring the FAA to full operation.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

11,383.68
-512.76
-4.31%

S&P

1,200.07
0.00
0.00%

NASDAQ

2,556.39
-136.68
-5.08%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	0.9555
British Pound	0.6153
Canadian Dollar	0.9786
Chinese Yuan	6.4427
Euro	0.7092

Hong Kong Dollar 7.8019

Indian Rupee 44.795

Indonesian Rupiah 8553.75

Philippine Peso 42.575

Singapore Dollar 1.2209

South Korean Won 1069.6

Swiss Franc 0.7665

Taiwan Dollar 29.0275

Thailand Baht 29.965

Nation

Military money on chopping block in austere time

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon got nearly everything it asked for during a decade of two wars shadowed by the Sept. 11 terror attacks and the rise of al-Qaida. No more.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen acknowledged that reality Thursday, saying the military is resigned to budget cuts of around \$350 billion over a decade to meet the public clamor for reducing the nation's debt. But they quickly warned that more than doubling those cuts along the lines of the "doomsday mechanism" spelled out in the new debt-limit law would undermine the military.

"If it happened—and, God willing, that would not be the case—but if it did happen, it would result in a further round of very dangerous cuts across the board, defense cuts that I believe would do real damage to our security, our troops and their families, and our military's

ability to protect the nation," Panetta told reporters at his first Pentagon news conference.

Mullen, who has said repeatedly that the debt is the greatest national security threat, said any cut on that order "jeopardizes our ability to deal with the other very real and very serious threats we face around the world."

Reflecting the widespread demand for fiscal austerity, the compromise debt deal struck by President Barack Obama and congressional leaders this week will slice \$350 billion from projected military spending over the next 10 years, and it leaves open the possibility of more than \$500 billion in additional reductions.

Defense spending, which has nearly doubled in the last decade, is no longer untouchable in Washington.

Tea partyers and fierce fiscal conservatives in Congress are more willing to include Pentagon dollars in their mix of budget cuts despite opposition from veteran defense hawks.

The death of Osama bin Laden, the diminished role of al-Qaida and the winding down of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have prompted some lawmakers to question the need for such robust military spending.

Among the things that could be on the block: A troubled new jet fighter, expensive plans to modernize the nation's nuclear arsenal and perhaps some of the gold-plated benefits now guaranteed to military retirees.

"I think programs that can't meet schedule, that can't meet cost ... requirements are very much in jeopardy and will be very much under scrutiny," Mullen said.

The prospect of nearly \$1 trillion in cuts unnerves military leaders, troubles lawmakers protective of the Pentagon and has touched off a scramble in the defense industry as contractors look to spare their multibillion-dollar weapons programs.

In sounding an alarm, Panetta is pressuring Democrats and Republicans to consider making

concessions on their core priorities—entitlement programs such as Medicare and Social Security defended by Democrats, and increases in taxes resisted by Republicans—before taking a sharper knife to defense. The former Democratic congressman and budget chief in the Clinton administration delivered a clear message to leaders of both parties.

"You cannot deal with the size deficits that this country is confronting by simply cutting the discretionary side of the budget," said Panetta. "If you're going to deal with those size deficits, you've got to look at the mandatory side of the budget, which is two-thirds of the federal budget, and you also have to look at revenues as part of that answer."

Just back from a trip to Iraq and Afghanistan, Mullen faced repeated questions from troops worried that their pay and benefits would be cut.

"Our men and women downrange have enough to worry

about just getting the job done," Mullen said Thursday. "They shouldn't also be concerned about whether or not they will be paid to do that job, or whether or not their families will continue to get the support they need during long absences."

Sitting side-by-side with Panetta at the Pentagon, Mullen pointed out that the military has a crowded must-do list: wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, support for the NATO-led operation in Libya, disaster relief missions in Haiti and Japan and defense of national interests.

Clearly reflecting the frustration building around the Pentagon and across the military, the defense leaders made it clear that while they will find the nearly \$400 billion in initial savings required, that's where they draw the line. Military leaders think they are already carrying their fair share of the cost-cutting burden while still being asked to respond to terrorist threats, nuclear-armed rogue

nations and other conflicts.

Defense budgets, not including the costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, have jumped since 9/11, from just over \$370 billion in the late 1990s to around \$550 billion today. In the political clamor to slash the deficit, Obama this past spring called for \$400 billion in defense cuts over 12 years and former Defense Secretary Robert Gates launched a comprehensive review of the military's strategy and capabilities.

That review could be completed by the end of the summer.

Setting the agenda now is the debt-limit deal to cut more than \$2 trillion from federal spending over a decade.

In the initial phase, all security spending—money for defense, homeland security, veterans, foreign aid and intelligence—would be cut from the current level of \$687 billion this year to \$683 billion in next year's budget. Defense would take a share of that \$4 billion reduction.

Polygamist leader convicted of child sex abuse

By WILL WEISSERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP)—Warren Jeffs was convicted Thursday of sexually assaulting two child brides after a whirlwind trial in which the polygamist sect leader insisted on representing himself, only to remain silent through much of the proceedings and present just one witness—a church elder who gave an extended Sunday school lesson on its beliefs.

The tall and lanky head of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints stood stone-faced as a verdict of guilty on two counts of sexual assault of underage girls was read, after the jury of 10 women and two men deliberated for 3 1/2 hours. He had stood mute during his closing argument, staring at the floor for all but a few seconds of the half hour he was allotted.

At one point, he turned and looked toward prosecutors and the jury, most of whom avoided direct eye contact with him. "I am at peace," he mumbled, then said no more. The only noise in the courtroom was the creaking of wooden benches brimming with spectators.

Jeffs, 55, had claimed his religious rights were being trampled and that God would seek revenge if the trial continued. He now faces up to life in prison. The sentencing phase of the trial began after the verdict was announced, and Texas' attorney general said it could take three days.

Prosecutors used DNA evidence to show Jeffs fathered a child with a 15-year-old girl and played an audio recording of



Polygamist sect leader Warren Jeffs walks out of the Tom Green County Courthouse with his former attorney Deric Walpole Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011, in San Angelo, Texas.

what they said was him sexually assaulting a 12-year-old. They also played tapes in which Jeffs was heard instructing young women on how to please him sexually—and thus, he told them, please God.

The FLDS, which has at least 10,000 members, is a radical offshoot of mainstream Mormonism and believes polygamy brings exaltation in heaven.

They see Jeffs as God's spokesman on earth.

Police raided the group's remote West Texas ranch in April 2008, finding women dressed in frontier-style dresses and hairdos from the 19th century as well as seeing underage girls who were clearly pregnant. The call to an abuse hotline that spurred the raid turned out to be a hoax, and more than 400 children who had been placed in protective custody were eventually

ally returned to their families.

But authorities brought sexual assault and bigamy charges against a dozen men from the sect, with Jeffs by far the highest-profile defendant. All seven of those who have been prosecuted before him were convicted, receiving prison sentences of between six and 75 years.

As the sentencing phase began, prosecutors told jurors they will present evidence that Jeffs had 78 wives, in addition to his legal spouse, and that 24 of them were under the age of 17. Lead prosecutor Eric Nichols also said he would show that Jeffs either witnessed or performed more than 500 polygamist marriages, as well as 67 other church marriages involving underage girls.

Jeffs stood up and made several incoherent objections to what Nichols said—something he did frequently throughout the trial.

ACROSS THE NATION

AP sources: Obama wants aid for unemployed vets

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is calling on Congress to pass a series of tax credits for companies that hire unemployed military veterans. Administration officials say Obama will announce the "Returning Heroes" and "Wounded Warriors" tax credits on Friday in Washington. The president's proposal would give companies that hire an unemployed veteran a \$2,400 tax credit. Companies that hire an unemployed veteran with a service-related disability would receive a \$4,800 tax credit and a \$9,600 credit if the veteran has been unemployed for more than six months. The administration says there are more than 1 million unemployed veterans in the U.S. One-fourth of those joined the military after the Sept. 11 attacks. The officials would speak only on condition of anonymity ahead of Obama's announcement.

German tourist dead after canyon lightning strike

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. (AP)—A German tourist has died after collapsing following a lightning strike at Grand Canyon National Park. Park rangers said emergency medical responders performed CPR on Thursday but couldn't revive the 64-year-old woman, who was part of a visiting tour group. Authorities say five other people in the group were treated for minor injuries after lightning hit the ground nearby, but apparently didn't hit anyone. The tour group was on the canyon's South Rim when the bolt of electricity struck at about 1:45 p.m. Authorities have not released the woman's name. Park rangers said it was unclear whether she suffered a heart attack.

Documents: NY child slaying suspect 'heard voices'

NEW YORK (AP)—The man accused in the kidnapping and dismemberment killing of an 8-year-old New York City boy told detectives his victim put up a struggle and that afterward he was hearing voices telling him "to take his own life for what he did," according to court papers made public Thursday. Police say Levi Aron made the remarks last month around the time he directed them to a trash bin where he

dumped a red suitcase containing body parts. As the interrogation wore on, Aron told them, "I'm famous," the papers say. The 35-year-old defendant also was asked if he knew anything about past sex crimes against children. The papers say he recounted how a man groped him on a subway train when he was a teenager. "But I never did that to a child because I don't swing that way," he said. The alleged statements, including a written confession, were turned over to the defense on Thursday at an arraignment where Aron pleaded not guilty. His lawyers also learned that a court-ordered psychiatric evaluation had found him competent to stand trial.

20-40 years for Pa. woman who hid baby remains

READING, Pa. (AP)—A woman who said she secretly gave birth in her bathtub five times, killed one of the babies and hid all five bodies in a closet pleaded guilty to murder Thursday and was sentenced to the maximum 20 to 40 years in prison. Michele Kalina, 46, of Reading, conceived the babies through a long affair with a co-worker and hid the pregnancies from him and her husband. She told a psychiatrist she had wrapped each baby with a towel and then stored the body in a tub or container in a locked closet. She thought four were "essentially stillborn" and denied doing anything "malicious," testified Dr. Jerome Gottlieb, a defense psychiatrist. But over the course of several visits with him, she recalled that the third baby, a boy, had moved. That death is the basis for the one count of murder.

Va. Tech locked down for hours over report of gun

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP)—A report of a possible gunman at Virginia Tech on Thursday set off the longest, most extensive lockdown and search on campus since the bloodbath four years ago that led the university to overhaul its emergency procedures. No gunman was found, and the school gave the all-clear just before 3 p.m., about five hours after sirens began wailing and students and staff members started receiving warnings by phone, email and text message to lock themselves indoors. Alerts were also posted on the university's website and Twitter accounts.

Asia

China vows security crackdown in restive Xinjiang

BEIJING (AP)—China is ordering a sweeping security clampdown in the western region of Xinjiang following recent deadly attacks blamed on Muslim ethnic Uighur militants, with Beijing vowing to show “no mercy” to anyone pursuing violence or separatism.

Public Security Minister Meng Jianzhu has ordered officials to mobilize all available resources and manpower to create a “high-pressure environment” in which

to contain terrorism, official newspapers reported Friday.

“Those criminals who dare test the law with their persons and carry out violent terrorist acts, we will punish harshly, showing no mercy and never being soft,” Meng was quoted as telling participants at an anti-terrorism conference Thursday in the regional capital of Urumqi.

Meng urged authorities to work to prevent violence in villages and cities through edu-

cation and intelligence gathering. He vowed prosecutions for anyone threatening lives or property, pushing for separatism or undermining relations between minority Uighurs and majority Han Chinese settlers in the region.

“Stick out your antennae, weave a tight web of prevention and wipe out the hot beds of violent terrorism at their roots,” Meng said.

The conference follows a trio

scene. Neighboring homes were evacuated, streets were closed and medical and fire crews waited nearby.

Pulver told police a man wearing a mask broke into her home and confronted her while she was in the kitchen. The teen said the man forced her to stay still while he fitted the device to her neck, and then fled. When officials arrived on the scene, they found Pulver alone in the house with the suspicious device tethered to her neck by a chain.

The family lives in one of Sydney’s ritziest areas and her father, William Pulver, is CEO of an information technology company. On Thursday, he fought back tears as he talked about his daughter’s horrifying ordeal.

“We as parents are extraordinarily proud of Maddy,” William Pulver said, his equally tearful wife Belinda at his side. “I think she has woken up this morning in pretty good spirits. She’s a little tired, a little sore, from holding this damned device in place for about 10 hours.”

Forensics officers spent Wednesday night combing through the family’s three-story home and scouring the surrounding streets for evidence. Moore said they had not iden-

tified a prime suspect and are trying to figure out how the man got into the house.

“We are treating this as an individual incident,” Moore said. “We have absolutely no information to suggest this is linked to any other crime.”

New South Wales state Police Assistant Commissioner Mark Murdoch said the device was quite sophisticated and was designed to look like a bomb as part of a “very, very elaborate hoax.”

Prime Minister Julia Gillard said she was shocked when she heard about the case on Thursday.

“When I looked at it this morning, the first thing I said was, ‘It’s like a Hollywood script—the kind of thing you would see at the cinema or on TV,’” Gillard told Fairfax Radio. “You would never expect it to happen in real life in Australia.”

Pulver was examined and released from a Sydney hospital on Thursday. Students at the private girls’ school she attends were being offered counseling.

“The school community is united behind the student and her family, and we thank God that she is not hurt,” Wenona School officials said in a statement.

Police: Fake bomb placed on teen in extortion plot

SYDNEY (AP)—Police were hunting Thursday for a masked man who chained a fake bomb to a young woman’s neck after breaking into her wealthy family’s home in an extortion attempt that Australia’s prime minister said resembled “a Hollywood script.”

In a climactic scene late Wednesday, bomb squad specialists safely freed Madeleine Pulver after 10 harrowing hours with the device attached around her neck. The 18-year-old was not hurt and police later determined the device contained no explosives.

A note of demands had been attached to the device, New South Wales state Police Detective Superintendent Luke Moore said, though he declined to specify what the demands were.

“We are treating this as an attempted extortion—a very serious attempted extortion,” Moore said.

The drama began on Wednesday afternoon in the upscale Sydney suburb of Mosman when Pulver’s family contacted police saying their daughter had been attacked and there was a strange device attached to her. Bomb technicians, negotiators and detectives rushed to the

Japan fires senior nuke officials amid scandals

By ERIC TALMADGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP)—Prime Minister Naoto Kan’s administration announced Thursday it was firing three senior nuclear policy officials amid scandals suggesting Japan’s government had grown too cozy with the nuclear power industry.

The move is the latest attempt by Kan and his Cabinet to shake off criticism they have not dealt sternly enough with nuclear power operators and to show they can push reforms deemed necessary after Japan’s March 11 earthquake and tsunami touched off the world’s worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl.

Trade and industry minister Banri Kaieda said the shakeup will involve three senior officials—the head of the Energy Agency, the head of the Nuclear

Industrial Safety Agency and a vice minister at the trade and industry ministry.

“We want to refresh and revitalize the ministry,” Kaieda said. The three posts are under his supervision.

Japan’s post-tsunami handling of the nuclear crisis has been hit recently by scandals over allegations that the government was too friendly with the nuclear industry and tried to secretly manipulate public discussions in favor of nuclear power at a number of seminars held before the current crisis began.

The shakeup was seen as an attempt to calm that uproar.

But Kan’s government continues to face a questions about its response to the crisis and even about how long Kan will be able to remain in office.

The growing disarray in Kan’s administration was emphasized

recently when his Cabinet was unwilling to unify itself behind Kan’s call for Japan to completely wean itself off nuclear power. Kan had to later step back and explain the comment was a “personal” opinion.

Kan, who faces a strong challenge from party rivals who want him to quit immediately, has said he will step down as soon as the country is on the recovery track. His top lieutenants have suggested that could be soon, but have refrained from setting a date.

Kaieda, one of the most prominent faces in Kan’s Cabinet, is also expected to announce his resignation, but, again, has refused to say when.

He recently broke down in tears under intense questioning in parliament and said he was willing to quit as soon as the proper time came.

of recent attacks blamed on militants among Xinjiang’s native Turkic Muslim Uighur population opposed to heavy-handed Chinese rule. At least three dozen people, including the alleged attackers, were killed in the attacks in the cities of Hotan and Kashgar.

Those came despite a massive

security presence that was tightened further following a major anti-Chinese riot in Urumqi two years ago in which at least 197 people were killed, hundreds arrested, and scores left missing.

Beijing blames the violence on militants based overseas, saying some trained in terrorist camps in neighboring Pakistan.

Uighur activists and security analysts dispute that claim, saying there is no evidence of a foreign hand behind the attacks. They blame the violence on economic marginalization and restrictions on Uighur culture and the Muslim religion that are breeding frustration and anger among young Uighurs.

NZ penguin eats, sleeps, waddles to delight of Web

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Happy Feet is now a creature of the Internet age.

The wayward emperor penguin, discovered on a New Zealand beach six weeks ago, will soon be returned to the wild—but not before he picked up an online following of more than 120,000.

That’s how many unique visitors have logged onto a Web camera monitoring his every move. Thousands more are expected to follow the updates after he’s released in coming weeks, with feeds from a GPS tracker attached to his back posted online.

And then there’s the chatter on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

His followers don’t seem bothered that Happy Feet, nicknamed after the 2006 animated movie, does little more than eat, sleep and occasionally waddle.

“At 11:20 p.m. in New Zealand, Happy Feet was sound asleep with his left foot and flipper sticking out,” one Facebook

fan wrote. “Five minutes later, he pulled in his left foot and flipper and just got up! :)

The penguin was found June 20 on Peka Peka Beach, about 40 miles (65 kilometers) northwest of Wellington and far from his Antarctic feeding grounds. He was moved four days later to the Wellington Zoo after becoming ill from eating sand, which he likely mistook for snow.

He has since gained weight and been given a clean bill of health to return to the ocean.

His unusual journey captured worldwide interest, with local TV3 station setting up a webcam on June 30 in his small, ice-filled room at the zoo.

The phone calls began coming in soon after, even prompting the zoo one night to send a veterinarian to check on the penguin after the station was swamped by worried callers convinced Happy Feet had died, zoo spokeswoman Kate Baker said. It turned out the penguin was sleeping.

One woman wrote an email to TV3 saying she was ill but taking “a lot of comfort in simply watching the penguin.”

“It’s kind of like O. Henry’s story ‘The Leaf,’” wrote the woman, identified as Janet in Chicago. “I feel as long as the penguin does well, I’ll do well.”

The station’s Wellington bureau chief, Gordon McBride, said he and a colleague came up with the webcam idea and the zoo agreed.

“It’s such an unusual thing, and people like to see that,” McBride said.

After the “great response” to the penguin’s webcam, the zoo is now considering live streaming other animals and the zoo’s medical procedures, Baker said.

The zoo raised the \$10,000 through a public campaign to cover the costs of housing Happy Feet, Baker said. It has also raised about \$8,000 so far for returning him to the sub-Antarctic ocean south of New Zealand—a trip that could cost up to \$30,000.



In this June 21, 2011 file photo, an Emperor penguin is seen on Peka Peka Beach of the Kapiti Coast in New Zealand. AP

Thai lawmakers to vote Yingluck Shinawatra premier

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai lawmakers prepared to elect Yingluck Shinawatra as the country’s first female prime minister Friday, setting the stage for the 44-year-old political novice to take charge of a deeply divided nation wracked by turmoil since her brother was ousted in a 2006 coup.

Before Yingluck can officially assume the post, however,

King Bhumibol Adulyadej must endorse her in a separate ceremony expected within days.

The vote comes a month after Yingluck’s Pheu Thai party swept the country’s July 3 elections, winning an absolute majority of 265 seats in the 500-member lower house of Parliament. Since then, Pheu Thai has consolidated those

gains, building alliances with smaller parties to form a 300-seat-strong coalition.

But Thailand remains politically split, and Yingluck will face the immediate challenge of keeping the country clear of the sometimes violent unrest it has witnessed since the army toppled her now-exiled brother, Thaksin Shinawatra.

World

Resident: Random killings in besieged Syrian city

By ZEINA KARAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—The flashpoint Syrian city of Hama endured a fifth day under military siege Thursday, with a resident saying people were being "slaughtered like sheep" in the streets and families were burying their dead in home gardens or roadsides rather than risk a trip to a cemetery.

Food supplies grew short and residents shared bread, while phones, electricity and Internet were cut off or severely hampered.

There was no official count of the dead. One resident said around 250 people have been killed since Sunday. And a rights group that tracks death tolls reported up to 30 people were killed in Hama on Wednesday alone. The tolls could not be verified because of the difficulty reaching residents and hospital officials in the besieged city, where journalists are barred as they are throughout Syria.

■ ■ ■

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday accused the Syrian government of killing more than 2,000 of its own citizens during its ongoing brutal crackdown against opposition protesters as the Obama administration moved to further isolate President Bashar Assad and his inner circle.

The administration is unhappy with Assad's actions in trying to quell the five-month-old uprising.

"We think, to date, the government is responsible for the deaths of more than 2,000 people of all ages," Clinton said, repeating the administra-



tion's position that "Assad has lost his legitimacy to govern the Syrian people."

She said the U.S. would "continue to support the Syrians themselves in their efforts to begin a peaceful and orderly transition to democracy" and renewed calls for the international community to unify behind steps to isolate Assad and his regime.

■ ■ ■

One resident said he had seen gunmen in plainclothes randomly shooting people in the streets.

"People are being slaughtered like sheep while

walking in the street," said the man, who spoke to The Associated Press by phone on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. "I saw with my own eyes one young boy on a motorcycle who was carrying vegetables being run over by a tank."

The assault on Hama, a center of the 5-month-old uprising against President Bashar Assad's iron rule, is among the most ferocious in the government's effort to crush the rebellion—and a sign of the Syrian leader's defiance of growing international condemnation.

The offensive began Sunday when Syrian security forces backed by tanks and snipers rolled into Hama in a fierce campaign that left corpses in the streets and sent residents fleeing for their lives. On Wednesday, Syrian tanks stormed Hama, taking over a main city square.

Activists, residents and human rights groups say the toll since Sunday ranges from at least 100 to as high as 250. The Local Coordination Committees, which tracks the crackdown, said up to 30 people were killed on Wednesday alone, and 50 were wounded, according to fleeing residents.

It said in a statement that the city was suffering a severe shortage of food and medical supplies and that the military was stopping any aid deliveries.

One Hama resident, reached by the AP on his cell phone after he left the city briefly in search of bread and vegetables, painted a grim picture, saying people were rationing food to get by during the holy month of Ramadan, when many Muslims fast from dawn to dusk then eat large, festive meals after sundown.

He said the army and pro-government gunmen

known as "shabiha" were shooting randomly at people and keeping food supplies from entering the city. He said he knew the gunmen were allied with the military because they sometimes walked alongside soldiers and talked to them.

Residents have resorted to burying their loved ones in home gardens or roadside pits "because we fear that if we go to the cemetery, we will end up buried along with them," the resident said. The Local Coordination Committees said many of the dead were also being buried in public parks.

Activists have expressed concern about worsening humanitarian conditions in Hama, saying medical supplies and bread were scarce even before the latest siege.

"There are military operations under way and we warn of grave human rights violations there in view of the siege," said Abdul-Karim Rihawi, the Damascus-based chief of the Syrian Human Rights League.

"A high number of casualties is expected from such a massive military operation," he said.

Rami Abdul-Rahman, who heads the London-based Observatory for Human Rights, said about 1,000 families have fled Hama in the past two days, most to the villages of Mashtal Hilu to the west and al-Salamieh to the east.

The Obama administration moved Thursday to further isolate Assad and his inner circle by imposing sanctions on a prominent pro-regime businessman, Muhammad Hamsho and his firm, Hamsho International Group, freezing all assets in U.S. jurisdictions and barring Americans from doing business with them.

Famine's devastation: 4 dead children, 1 family

By MOHAMED SHEIKH NOR
and JASON STRAZIUSO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Kaltum Mohamed sits beside a small mound of earth, alone with her thoughts. It is her child's grave—and there are three others like it.

Just three weeks ago, Mohamed was the mother of five young children. But the famine that has rocked Somalia has claimed the lives of four of them. Only a daughter remains. The others starved to death before Mohamed's eyes as she and her husband trekked to Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, in search of aid.

Thousands of parents are grieving in Somalia and in refugee camps in neighboring countries amid Somalia's worst drought in 60 years.

The drought and famine in Somalia have killed more than 29,000 children under the age of 5 in the last 90 days in southern Somalia alone, according to U.S. estimates. The U.N. says 640,000 Somali children are acutely malnourished, suggesting the death toll of small children will rise.

Mohamed and her husband tried to get their children from Somalia's parched south to the capital, Mogadishu, in time to receive emergency aid from the few humanitarian organizations that are operating there. They began their journey in the Lower Shabelle region, where the U.N. declared famine July 20. AP Television News found



The carcass of a cow lies in the sand near the Eastern Kenyan town of Dadaab, Kenya, 100 kms (60 miles) from the Somali border, Thursday Aug. 4, 2011.

her that day looking after her severely malnourished children, cradling them in her arms.

Her family belongs to a tribe of pastoral nomads, but all of their livestock died in the drought.

When her children fell ill, she took them to a hospital in the Lower Shabelle but couldn't afford the treatment they needed. Most aid is not getting to the south where it's desperately needed. An al-Qaida allied group, al-Shabab, controls much of southern Somalia and insists that there is no famine. It has banned all aid groups but the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The family's journey to the

capital, one being made by thousands of other Somalis, came too late. Four of Mohamed's children died en route because of severe malnutrition and related complications.

"Death is inevitable," Mohamed told AP Television News on Thursday in a makeshift camp near Mogadishu's airport, home to hundreds of other displaced people. "But the surprise was how suddenly I lost my four children in less than 24 hours because of famine."

Instead of being able to caress her children, she crouched next to one of their graves and softly patted and smoothed the mound of

earth covering it. She wept, then wiped away her tears. She still has a daughter to try to feed.

The Muslim holy month of Ramadan is under way, and the family is fasting daily. Without food, though, Mohamed doesn't know how they can break their fast at sundown. The international community must do more to help, she said.

Meanwhile, famine still stalks her.

On Wednesday, the U.N. declared three new regions in Somalia famine zones—including the camps for displaced persons in Mogadishu. These are areas where the highest rates of mal-

nutrition and mortality are taking place.

Nancy Lindborg, an official with the U.S. government aid arm, told a congressional committee in Washington on Wednesday that the U.S. estimates that more than 29,000 children under the age of 5 have died in the past 90 days. That number is based on nutrition and mortality surveys verified by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A U.S. official noted Thursday that the U.S. said this week it would not prosecute legitimate aid groups trying to assist Somalis suffering from famine in areas under al-Shabab control. Such prosecution would have been possible under U.S. anti-terrorism laws, but getting groups to go into a part of Somalia controlled by a brutal, hardline Islamist insurgency is another matter.

The official, Jon Brause of USAID, told journalists in Nairobi, Kenya, that there hasn't been a dramatic increase in assistance flowing to Somalia after the announcement because it's so difficult to access al-Shabab-controlled territory.

No U.S. law specifically prevents aid to southern and central Somalia, where the U.N. food agency says it cannot reach 2.2 million Somalis in areas under al-Shabab's control. But bribes, tolls and other typical of costs of doing business in the largely lawless and chaotic country could have been punishable after the State Department declared al-Shabab a terrorist organization in 2008.

Mexico town's police force quits after attack

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—An entire 20-man police force resigned in a northern Mexican town after a series of attacks that killed the police chief and five officers over the last three months, state officials said Thursday.

The officers' resignation Thursday left the 13,000 people of Ascension without local police services, Chihuahua state chief prosecutor Carlos Manuel Salas said. State and federal police have moved in to take over police work, he said.

The mass resignation appeared to be connected to a Tuesday attack by gunmen that killed three of the town's officers, Salas said.

But it wasn't the first deadly attack on the police department this year.

In mid-May, police chief Manuel Martinez, who had been in office just seven months, was gunned down with two other officers on a nearby highway. The three had been kidnapped a day before police found their bodies riddled with bullets in the back seat of a sedan.

The town's police force was relatively new.

Angry residents had led authorities to replace the entire force last September after the mob killings of two teenagers who had allegedly kidnapped a girl from a seafood restaurant. People claimed police officers were aiding drug gangs.

YoungStyle

KIDS KRAFTS

By AMBER CARVAN
KIDSCRAFTWEEKLY.COM

PAPER BAG OWLS

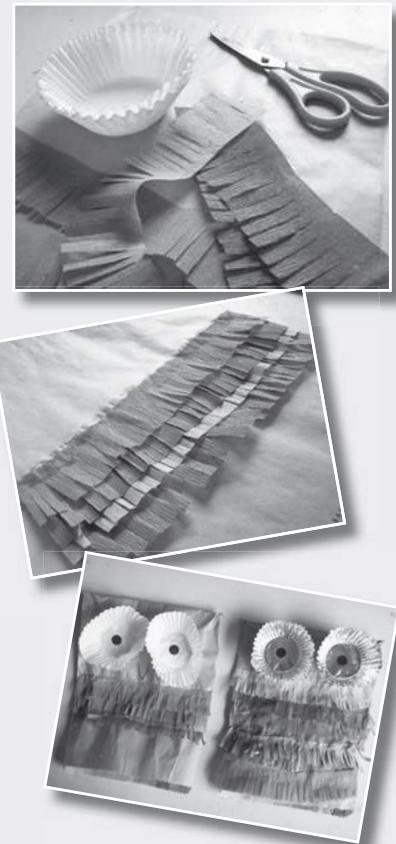
This is a simple and fun project suitable for toddlers and preschoolers. Little ones will whip through it quite quickly so it's a good idea to provide supplies for a number of owls.

You will need

- brown paper bags
- scissors
- patty pans
- markers
- glue
- colored paper
- permanent marker

Directions

1. Cut into some colorful strips of paper to make lovely ruffles.



PATTY PAN FLOWERS

In Australia, cupcake and muffin cases are known as patty pans. These easy patty pan flowers make a perfect project for very young crafters.

You will need

- patty pans (cupcake or muffin cases)
- cotton wool balls
- pipecleaners
- scissors
- glue
- sticky tape
- polystyrene (or a potato)

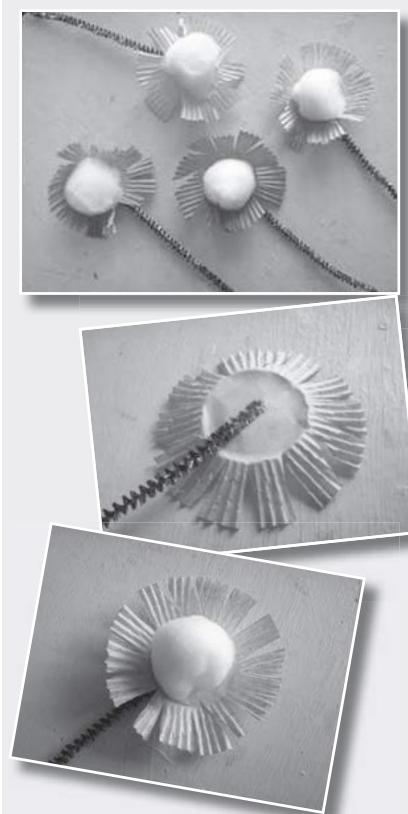
Directions

1. Using child-friendly scissors, chop into the edges of the patty pan.

2. Tape a pipe cleaner to the back.

3. Glue a cotton ball to the centre.

4. And there you have it! If you want you can stab the pipecleaner stems into a piece of polystyrene to make a flower bed. If you don't have any, a sweet potato will work just as effectively!



PANTRY LETTERS

I'm sure you've noticed that I'm a big fan of craft ideas that make use of the materials that we have around us. The pantry is one of my favorite places to find craft materials—for this activity we used dried beans and peas but you could just as easily use lentils, pasta, rice, seeds or breakfast cereal.

You will need

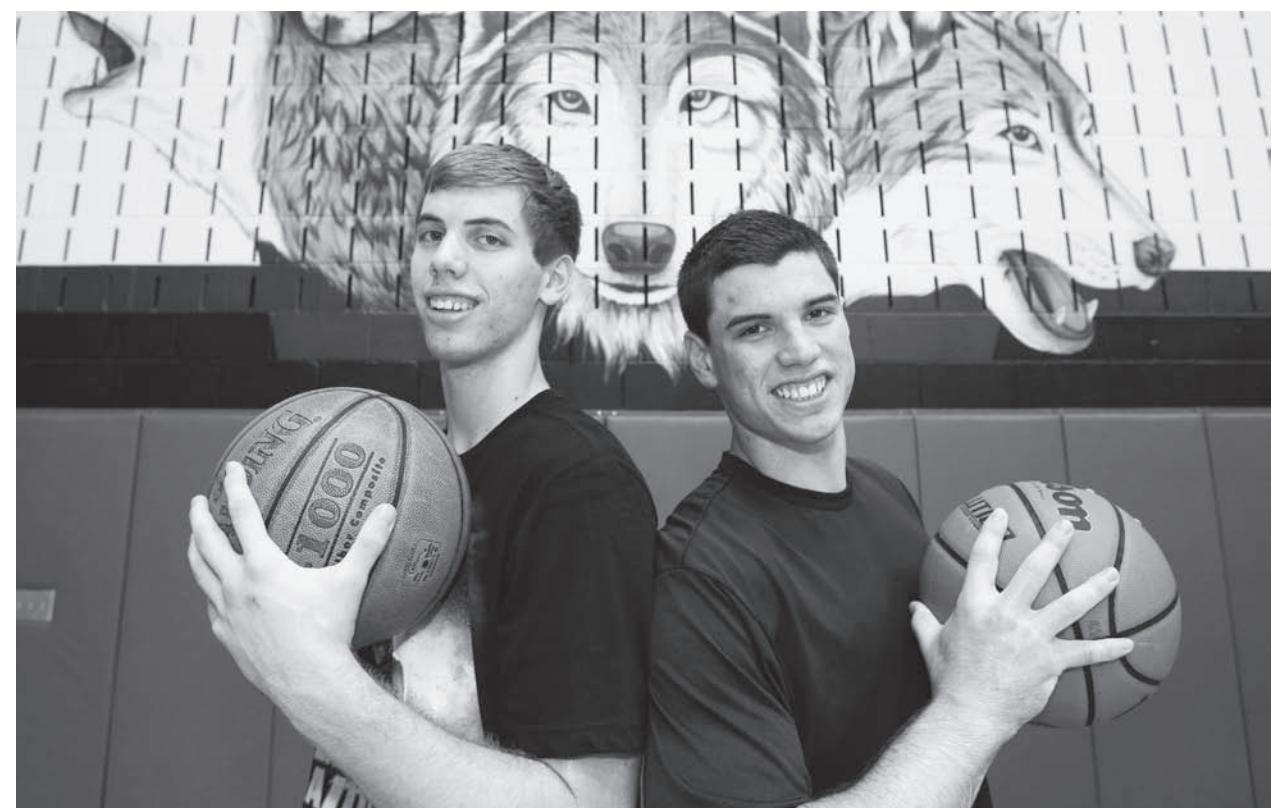
- paper bags (or just paper)
- white glue
- pantry supplies for gluing

Directions

1. Write the shape of a letter or word using white glue.

2. Stick pantry supplies along the shape of the letters. This was a big hit with my almost 3-year-old!

And ta da!



Mickey and Michael Mitchell, 15 and 17, pose together on the basketball court in the gymnasium of Plano West High School in Plano, Texas on June 10, 2011. The two are two highly-rated sports prospects that just happen to be brothers. MCT

Colleges line up for this skilled set of Texas siblings

By MARK DENT

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

This has to be the right house.

A sporting family

The first time Mickey Mitchell threw a football 50 yards, as a fifth-grader, his father, Ken Mitchell, heard the news about 25,000 feet up Mount Everest.

Let's see, young child launches football a mile, dad first hears story in driving snowstorm while positioned halfway toward the stratosphere. Somehow the headline fits. Athletic feats define this family.

Ken, 62, a trainer for youth football and basketball, played minor league baseball before giving it up for football at UNLV. For awhile, it seemed like a dead end. No NFL teams gave him a call, but Ken phoned the Atlanta Falcons every hour on the hour every day for three weeks. By luck, the director of player personnel answered once, and after trying out, Ken ended up playing linebacker in 1973 and 1974.

Soon he began the next stage of his life, raising kids who would crave games the same way he did.

Daughters Missi, 32, and Mandi, 30, played basketball at small colleges in Florida. So did Monte, 28.

Matt, 21, played on the same high school team as 2011 consensus top recruit Austin Rivers. Michelle, 19, was one of Orlando's top players before a car accident detoured her career.

Five years ago, Mike would tell his dad to watch AAU tournament crowds when his younger brother walked into the gym. The faces gawked at Mickey.

He has attained celebrity status on the grass-roots basketball circuit. At a recent tournament in California, he said, several kids asked for his autograph and phone number. Two recruiting services, NY2LA and HoopScoop, ranked him as the second- and third-best player in his class, respectively.

"I've been coaching and playing bas-

ketball my entire life. ... And I've had some really good point guards," Plano West coach Anthony Morgan said. "I'll have to say nothing to the caliber of this young man, as young as he is."

Mike lacks the official ranking but not the acclaim. A few weeks ago in Plano, a group of kids Mike had never met approached him. They asked him if he was the "guy who dunks on everybody." He is.

He claims a vertical of over 40 inches. As a linebacker for Prestonwood Christian as a sophomore, he ran down Stanford recruit Ty Montgomery for 40 yards and tackled him.

"Some guys are strong, some guys are fast but don't have a feel for the game," Plano West coach Mike Hughes said. "He just seems to have a feel for the game."

Mike said Penn State, Texas, Florida and Kansas have sent him letters for football. Texas has done the same for Mickey, but basketball has led to greater early interest.

Last summer, Kentucky coach John Calipari talked to him on the phone for about 30 minutes. He has spoken with famous basketball connector William Wesley, better known as World Wide Wes. North Carolina has sent a letter. He said he was once approached by Florida's Billy Donovan at a Gators basketball camp.

"Would you like to come to Florida?" Donovan asked.

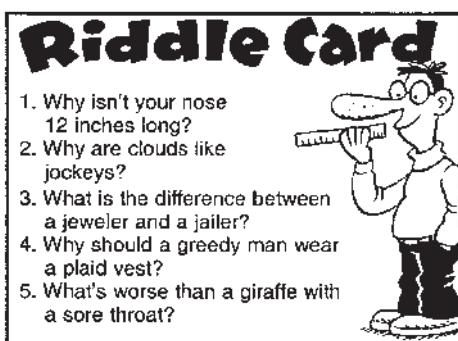
Mickey was in fifth grade.

Serious games

The interview winds down. Mike and Mickey, with brothers McKinley, 14, and Morgan, 10, have sat still for an hour, clearly a rare phenomenon.

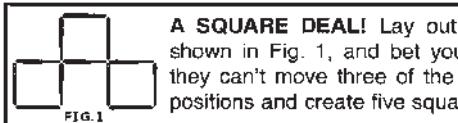
Nearly every summer weekend sends Mike and Mickey out of town for basketball, to play perhaps five games a day.

Still, they can't wait for the next game.



1. Why isn't your nose 12 inches long?
2. Why are clouds like jockeys?
3. What is the difference between a jeweler and a jailer?
4. Why should a greedy man wear a plaid vest?
5. What's worse than a giraffe with a sore throat?

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A SQUARE DEAL! Lay out 12 sticks as shown in Fig. 1, and bet your friends that they can't move three of the sticks to new positions and create five squares.

FIG. 1 FIG. 2

Answer: Rearrange them as shown in Fig. 2. You now have 4 small squares and 1 large one.

CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Tell, told, toed, toes, teed, tees, tins.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was noted psychiatrist and sleep researcher William C. Dement who made the following sage observation: "Dreaming permits each and every one of us to be quietly and safely insane every night of our lives."

■ For reasons that aren't entirely clear in the record at hand, it's illegal to wear a hat while dancing in Fargo, N.D.

■ Despite the fact that the English language is very large in terms of the number of words available to those who can use them, it seems that much of our writing is made up of only a few words. In a study once conducted by lexicographer G.H. McKnight, it was found that approximately one-quarter of all the words in any given sample of writing in English is one of the following nine: and, be, have, it, of, the, to, will and you.

■ Some species of squid can swim up to 35 mph.

■ If you're an avid hiker, you might want to keep in mind that the most dangerous trail in America, according to Backpacker magazine, is located in Canyonlands National Park in Utah. The trail known as The Maze earned this distinction thanks to numerous dead-end canyons, few sources of water and temperatures that soar to over 100 degrees F. in summer.

■ If you're like me, you're a turophile: a lover of cheese.

■ When the eggs of the Darwin frog hatch and the tadpoles emerge, the babies are swallowed by a male frog. They're not victims of cannibalism, however; the father keeps the tadpoles in his vocal sac for two months. Once they've matured and become tiny frogs, the young ones are coughed up and have to fend for themselves.

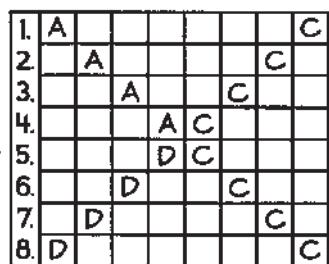
■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "It's not a good idea to put your wife into a novel; not your latest wife, anyway." —Norman Mailer

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

Illustrated by David Coulson



FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DEFINITION:

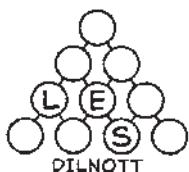
1. Relating to education.
2. A type of rodeo rider.
3. Colorful birds.
4. A type of tuna.
5. Engraved pieces of wood.
6. Fastening devices.
7. Barely satisfactory.
8. A household servant.

ANAGRAM:

aced + mica	cake + barb
sack + cope	bola + care
duct + woos	dock + stap
quay + aced	mice + dots

8. Domestic
4. Abdominal. 5. Woodpecker. 6. Padlocks. 7. Adequate.

Answers: 1. Academic. 2. Barber. 3. Peacock. 4. Small squares and 1 large one.



Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Tell, told, toed, toes, teed, tees, tins.

Initial.

BLACK AND WHITE

Q X U R P M J G D A X V S Q N
K S I F D G A X V T Q O M J H
N N E W S P A P E R F C A Y W
U A R I P N L L J E H F D S B
Z N I X V V T R F Q R O Y M K
I H I T F O O D B V Z E Y W S
V A T U A R M D T Q K O F N O
D L D R G M K D E I H N S E E
F I B N D N I C L X A N U Z R
X E C W A O E A V O U U S K O
Z R R E P P E P D N A T L A S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Dalmatian	Nuns	Panda	Skunk
Dice	Old movies	Penguin	Tuxedo
Keys	Old TV	Referee	Zebra
Newspaper	Oreos	Salt and pepper	

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

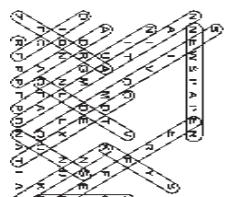
DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		×		25
+		+		-	
	×		+		29
÷		÷		×	
	+		÷		1
5		1		32	
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8

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MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

5		1		32
2	+	6	÷	8
	+		×	1
7	×	4	+	1
	+		-	29
3	+	2	×	5
25				

Know your pet's 'safe area'

DEAR READERS: I recently received a report from the University of Missouri about a dog named "Sugar," a Cocker Spaniel who was badly injured in the tornado that ravaged Joplin, Mo. When her owners grabbed her and ran for the safety of their basement shelter, "Sugar, sensing the increased fear of her owners, became panicky and bolted back upstairs to her own 'safe area,' a spot under one of the beds." With the tornado almost atop their house, the owners could not leave the shelter to retrieve her.

Sugar survived the tornado, although she was badly injured and had lost use of her hind legs. Veterinarians at the University of Missouri performed emergency surgery to correct the injury to her spine. After many days of physical rehabilitation and therapy, Sugar is recovering with her owners.

In addition to this encouraging story of recovery, what caught my interest was that Sugar's owners knew exactly where she preferred to hide when something scary was happening. This doesn't seem like much, but knowing your pet's favorite hiding places can be a lifesaving advantage in an emergency. With Sugar, unfortunately, this was not the case, as she was found several blocks away. There was nothing more



her owners could do without putting themselves in mortal danger (something else that is important to keep in mind in an emergency).

But in a less extreme emergency, when there's time to gather the family and pets, or when your pet is having a health emergency, you'll be able to find your pet faster, or direct emergency personnel to where your pet normally hides, if you know where that hiding place is.

■ ■ ■

Send your question or comment to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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Sand-castle making is fun for all ages

Life IS a beach for "sandguy" and grandfather Kirk Rademaker. As an internationally acclaimed sand sculptor, he is known for his innovative designs created with sand and water on exotic beaches of the world. In 1997, he quit his career in carpentry, traded in his construction boots for bare feet, and began a fulltime career enjoying the enchantment of sand, surf and art.

"A beach filled with people is an equalizer in a society that divides people," he says. "When beachgoers of all ages and stations of life spontaneously join together to create a sandcastle, no one cares about your title, name, rank or lack thereof."

On vacation in Santa Cruz, Calif., I experienced the freedom he talks about as I poked around in wet sand to my heart's content, sharing the moment with the newfound friends around me. I discovered that castle-making isn't just for kids with pint-size pails and scoops. All ages can reawaken their inner artist and experience joy.

As Kirk guided a seaside crowd of eager onlookers and myself through the basics of sandcastle and sand sculpting, he demonstrated his basic and doable techniques for getting started. (For step-by-step photos, see the "Sandguy Kirk Rademaker Sand Sculptures" photo album at my DONNA'S DAY Facebook fan page.)

When you head to a sandy beach at a lake or the ocean, bring along the following along items, then let nature provide the rest.

Here's the stuff:

■ Five-gallon plastic buckets (available at hardware and building supply stores). Remove the base of one bucket so it looks like a wide tube.

■ Shovel for sand and water mixture.
■ Your favorite sand-sculpting tools,

Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

such as a small trowel, butter knives, spoons and scoops.

Here's the fun:

1. Fill one of the buckets with sea or lake water and bring it to the "construction site."

2. Set the bucket with base removed firmly into the sand upside down. Fill it about two-thirds full with sand, then add water to the top. Vigorously mix with your hands. Tap the outside of the bucket; the vibrations cause the wet sand to settle and harden. Repeat with more sand and water until the bucket is full and the sand feels very firm.

3. Tap the sides of the bucket again and gently lift it upward to reveal a large silolike sand shape. Now you have the basic building block for your castle, Mount Rushmore-esque sculpture or wacky design. When you get going, just let it expand with your imagination. The goal, according to Kirk, is that you don't want the sand shape to look like a five-gallon bucket any longer.

Source: www.sandguy.com.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Good Housekeeping

Produce, not pasta, key to summer salads

By SUSAN M. SELASKY
DETROIT FREE PRESS

Summer salads are the culinary workhorses of picnics, potlucks and patio parties, and pasta versions are more plentiful than mosquitoes.

But isn't it time to use your noodle — or rather lose your noodle — and expand your potluck palette?

There are plenty of great-tasting salads sans pasta that are fresh, light and capture the essence of the season much better than mayo-laden macaroni.

Find inspiration in the fresh bounty at farmers and roadside markets, grocery produce sections or what's coming up in your backyard.

"The options are so great with all the summer produce," says Jan Kemp, healthy eating specialist at Whole Foods Market Washtenaw in Ann Arbor, Mich. "We need to take advantage of it because there is lots of variety."

Many of the salads in Whole Foods' Health Starts Here program, including today's Mediterranean Crunch recipe, don't call for pasta. The program is designed to promote awareness of eating whole foods, plant-based foods, nutrient-dense foods and healthy fats.

"The nice thing about salads without pasta is you can add all sorts of different beans and vegetables," says Kemp. "You can make beautiful, healthy and delicious salads for your guests, and they might not know it."

Kemp advises getting creative and tailoring salad recipes to your own tastes.

"If there's an herb that you don't like, take it out and add something else," says Kemp. Do the same with vegetables or beans. "Take out the ones you don't like and add something else."

Summer salads should be easy, so don't work up a sweat by heating up a big pot of water for pasta. Today's recipes are perfect for any gathering. They make enough for at least eight servings; figuring about 1/2 cup per serving. Except for Garden Panzanella, which should be eaten soon after mixing, all the salads can be made ahead and travel well. You can pack them in sealable plastic bags and place them in a bowl just before serving.

Mediterranean Crunch

Serves: 4 / Preparation time: 15 minutes / Total time: 15 minutes (plus chilling time)

1 can (15 ounces) no-salt-added garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained

1 cucumber, chopped

1 cup small broccoli florets

1 cup grape tomatoes, halved

1 cup finely sliced kale, tough stems removed

1/2 cup finely chopped red onion

2 tablespoons finely chopped Kalamata olives

3 tablespoons red wine vinegar

1 small garlic clove, minced

1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme

In a large bowl, combine all the ingredients. Cover and chill at least 1 hour before serving.

—From Whole Foods Market, Ann Arbor, Mich.

130 calories (35 percent from fat), 4 grams fat (0 grams sat. fat), 21 grams carbohydrates, 6 grams protein, 140 mg sodium, 0 mg cholesterol, 5 grams fiber.



AP
Basil and tarragon are options for garden panzanella, which also makes use of day-old bread.

Chilled Vegetable Salad

Makes: 8 (1 cup servings) / Preparation time: 15 minutes / Total time: 30 minutes (plus chilling time)

1 cup sugar
3/4 cup cider vinegar
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 medium green bell pepper, washed, chopped
1 medium onion, peeled, chopped
3 celery ribs, sliced
1 jar (7 ounces) diced pimiento, undrained
1 can (15 1/4 ounces) small sweet green peas, drained, or 1 cup frozen peas, thawed
1 can (14 1/2 ounces) French-cut green beans, drained, or 2 cups haricot vert, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 can (11 ounces) white shoepeg corn, drained, or 1 cup fresh yellow corn
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

In a small saucepan, combine the sugar, vinegar and oil. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Cook, stirring often, 5 minutes or until sugar dissolves. Remove dressing from heat and cool 30 minutes. In a large bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Gently stir in dress-

ing. Cover and chill salad for 8 hours. Serve with a slotted spoon. This salad may be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for several days. Adapted from www.myrecipes.com.

THIS IS A HAMMER

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Even in the northernmost reaches of the country, we're now well into summer and its routine of barbecues, swimming and general outdoor fun. Of course, with all these activities, an element of risk is always present.

Here are a few suggestions to keep your family and yourself safe this summer:

- Keep barbecue grills at least 5 to 10 feet away from the house. Grills give off tremendous heat, which will melt vinyl siding easily and can cause a house fire.

- Place a fire extinguisher

Safe summer fun

near the grill when it's in operation.

- Prevent excess sparks and flare-ups on the grill: Heat the charcoal properly, and don't place too many high-fat items over the charcoal at once. If the fire flares up, close the grill lid for a few seconds, then open and remove greasy foods from the grill.

- If using an inflatable swimming pool to entertain the kids, assign a responsible adult to watch the pool at all times. Toddlers can drown in just a few inches of water.

- The same goes for any type of backyard activity with children: Have a responsible adult supervise all activities to prevent accidents or stop kids from wandering off.

- Repair or replace any broken or splintered outdoor furniture before your event, and put away lawn tools and pet toys.

- Wear high-SPF sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses when outside on a sunny day. Drink plenty of water throughout the event, and limit alcohol consumption.

- Check yourself and the family for ticks at the end of

the day, and remove them immediately. You can reduce the chance of having one jump on you by trimming the grass beforehand, pruning back low-hanging tree branches, and wearing hats and long sleeves when possible.

HOME TIP: Try using a charcoal starter to preheat charcoal more evenly; this provides more consistent heat and gives off fewer sparks.

Send your questions or comments to ask@thisisahammer.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

ing. Cover and chill salad for 8 hours. Serve with a slotted spoon. This salad may be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for several days. Adapted from www.myrecipes.com.

Chunky Greek Salad

Makes: 12 side-dish servings (about 8 cups) / Preparation time: 15 minutes / Total time: 15 minutes (plus chilling time)

2 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper
1 pint cherry or grape tomatoes
1 1/2 hothouse or regular cucumbers, cut into 1-by-{inch} chunks
1 large red pepper, washed, cut into 1-inch pieces
2 green onions, washed, sliced
1/2 cup Kalamata olives, pitted and coarsely chopped
1/4 cup loosely packed fresh mint leaves or flat-leaf parsley, coarsely chopped
3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese, optional

In a large serving bowl, whisk together the oil, lemon juice, salt and black pepper. Add the tomatoes, cucumbers, red pepper, green onions, olives and mint. Toss until evenly mixed. Cover and refrigerate up to six hours. Just before serving, sprinkle with the feta cheese, if using. Toss again before serving. Adapted from "The Great Potluck Cookbook" by Good Housekeeping (Heart Books, \$12.95).

DOLLARS AND SENSE

Homemade cleaners get the job done

By DAVID UFFINGTON
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

When it comes to household cleaning products, there really isn't anything new on the shelves. The packaging might change (generally getting smaller) and the claims might be wilder, but the ingredients themselves likely are the same. One thing that hasn't changed at all: Cleaning products cost too much, and manufacturers have tried to convince us that we need a separate product for each area or function.

If you're willing to do a little experimenting and follow a few simple recipes, you can make your own cleaning products and save up to 90 percent of the cost of those bought in the store. With a few basic ingredients, you can create multi-use products that not only work, but are safer around children and pets.

Here are a few examples:

- Mix two cups water and one cup hydrogen peroxide and spray on shower grout.
- Mix white vinegar and water (50/50 mixture) in a spray bottle for bathroom and kitchen surfaces. White vinegar removes mildew, so it's effective in showers as well.
- Simmer a cup of water and 1 tablespoon of vinegar to get rid of cooking smells from fish, onions and curry.
- Mix a cup of water, a cup of Isopropyl rubbing alcohol and 1 tablespoon non-sudsing ammonia in a spray bottle for use on windows. Isopropyl alcohol acts as a disinfectant, too.
- Or, mix two cups of water and 3 tablespoons of vinegar in a sprayer for use on windows.

■ To clean drains, mix four quarts hot water (not boiling) and 1/2 cup of salt. Pour down the drain and follow with clear, hot water.

■ Put lemon slices down the garbage disposal for a fresh smell.

■ Use a paste of baking soda and water to clean your oven. Let it dry overnight. Wipe off with liquid detergent and a little water on a sponge.

■ Use 1/4 cup of vinegar in the washer's rinse cycle to cut down on static.

■ Use dish soap, baking soda and a scrubber to remove grease spots from clothes.

Tip: Label your spray bottles so there's no confusion about the contents. Attach your recipe to the label so you can duplicate it later.

For more recipes, check your library for "green" books, or go online. Check www.thriftyfun.com, www.organizedhome.com, www.eatheeasy.com, www.diynetwork.com and www.beingfrugal.net.

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

Life & Style

Serkis is go-to guy for performance-capture roles

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

SAN DIEGO (AP)—When the filmmakers behind “Rise of the Planet of the Apes” settled on virtual simians rather than people in monkey suits for their lower primates, their first casting task became obvious: get Andy.

British actor Andy Serkis has emerged as a master of the art of creating characters in the digital realm of performance capture. He’s been the emotional backbone of the great ape in “King Kong” and Gollum in “The Lord of the Rings,” creatures that are completed by visual-effects artists layering computer animation over his raw performance.

Serkis, a 20-year veteran of stage and live-action screen roles, has become best-known for his performance-capture characters, which now include a super-intelligent chimpanzee in the “Apes” prequel, opening Friday, along with a key part in this December’s “The Adventures of Tintin,” from Steven Spielberg and “Kong” and “Lord of the Rings” creator Peter Jackson.

He’s playing Gollum again



Serkis

in Jackson’s “The Hobbit,” a two-part prequel to “The Lord of the Rings.”

When he first did Gollum, the technology was called motion capture. The performance-capture tag came as the tools evolved and filmmakers sought to emphasize that their actors truly were creating characters, not simply occupying space as place-holders for digital beings painted in later.

Serkis does not see himself when he watches his performance-capture characters that were completed by Jackson’s WETA effects outfit. But he does see what he created on the set, wearing a skin-tight suit covered with reference dots for digital cameras to record his body language.

“I totally see the intentions, the facial expressions, the timing, the acting choices. You know, the performance,” Serkis, 47, said in an interview at July’s Comic-Con fan convention, where he and director Rupert Wyatt showed off footage from the “Apes” prequel. “I know the manifestation of it is eventually

when the director cuts the movie, they’re cutting the footage of you in the suit, so they live for months and months and months with the performance.

“And a director like Rupert—who wants to retain that performance, because that’s why it’s there in the cut—will make sure that it doesn’t veer

off through the animation and rendering process. It doesn’t veer away from the intention created by the actor. And fortunately, WETA is a genius visual-effects company, because for them, storytelling and character comes before showing off.”

In the “Apes” prequel, Serkis plays Caesar, a chimp that inherited a deeper intellect from his mother, a test subject for a drug intended to cure Alzheimer’s. Raised much like a human child by a researcher (James Franco), with help from a veterinarian (Freida Pinto), Caesar becomes a Che Guevara-style revolutionary, leading a rebellion of apes against their human oppressors.

Past “Planet of the Apes” flicks used actors in chimp, gorilla or orangutan costumes. The film-

makers this time needed photo-realistic simians that could evolve into smarter-than-average apes.

Once the filmmakers decided to use performance capture, Serkis was the first person senior visual-effects supervisor Joe Letteri suggested to Wyatt.

“You had this chimp that needed to grow up and have this relationship, this bond, with a human family,” said Letteri, who also worked with Serkis on “The Lord of the Rings,” “King Kong” and “Tintin.” “We needed someone who was going to be in there with James and Freida who’s not afraid to interact with them and not afraid to have the personality play out as part of the performance.

“I can see a lot of Andy in it. It doesn’t look at all like him, but there’s an intensity, the way you can look into his eyes. You can just kind of see Andy’s performance.”

Wyatt wanted the best actor possible to play Caesar, and he was quickly convinced that Serkis was the primate he needed.

Letteri had told him that the visual-effects artists were not alchemists who could salvage a performance that lacked real human spirit at the core of the character, Wyatt said.

Caillat keeps her sunny demeanor

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—It’s not as if Colbie Caillat has never had her heart broken, experienced a major letdown, or had a low point in her life. But instead of wallowing in sorrow through her songs, she prefers to have her music focus on whatever positive lessons can be taken from a setback.

That’s why the singer-songwriter, who broke through with the hit “Bubbly,” tends to have song titles like “Think Good Thoughts,” “What If” and “Dream Life, Life,” all featured on her third and latest CD, “All of You.”

“I think that music is therapy,” the 26-year-old said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. “So when I write a song, I write from exact moments that I go through, and I know that everyone can relate, because everybody goes through the same situations in life. ... When you can tap into that and people can relate to it, then it connects you to them.”

Caillat, who kicks off a U.S. tour this month, has certainly connected with music fans. She has a gold and platinum album to her credit, and recently, she got visual proof of her impact when a fan revealed a new tattoo: Caillat’s name on their body.

AP: Are you amazed at how far you’ve come since your debut?

Caillat: I performed at the White House a few months ago. I met the first family and I sang the national anthem on the White House balcony. ... I was so emotional that day, I couldn’t believe that I had the opportunity to be there with the president and the first family, and that I’ve won two Grammys, and I’ve written with Common and Jason Mraz and Taylor Swift. When I think of these things, I have to pinch myself, because I would have never have imagined this to happen for my career when I was younger.

AP: “Bubbly” rocketed you to fame. Do you ever try and recreate that moment?

Caillat: I feel lucky that I get to work with a person that I’m in love with. He’s my best friend and we get to travel the world together and play music together and write songs together. It’s so much fun, and when this job stresses me out or I need a break or I need someone to look to that can comfort me, he is right there, and we can do that for each other. Of course with anyone you are with too much, you can get a little on each other’s nerves. But it lasts for like five minutes, and then you’re over it and you’re happy again that they’re there with you.



Caillat

to grow as an artist and a musician, so with all of my records, I definitely have learned from the producers around me and the musicians that come in to play, and the writers that I get to work with, and artists that I work with, so I think you have to develop. ... This record is more up-tempo, and I added more electric guitars and programmed beats under the real live instruments, and I did a hip-hop collaboration with Common, and we have the ukulele in it.

AP: You’ve been criticized at times for being too cheery. How do you respond to that?

Caillat: Everyone has a different taste, everyone has a different style and that’s what I’ve learned. You can’t be upset if one person doesn’t like your music or your song, because hundreds or thousands of people do love it. ... I think that you should write from your heart, write from what you’re feeling, write songs that will help people get through life situations, because we all need help, we all need reminders, and we do need that optimism. ... There’s so much stress and clutter and craziness going on, I think people need a clearer vision.

AP: You’ve found love with Justin Young, who is a singer-songwriter, and a guitarist in your band. Is it difficult having a relationship with someone you work with?

Caillat: I feel lucky that I get to work with a person that I’m in love with. He’s my best friend and we get to travel the world together and play music together and write songs together. It’s so much fun, and when this job stresses me out or I need a break or I need someone to look to that can comfort me, he is right there, and we can do that for each other. Of course with anyone you are with too much, you can get a little on each other’s nerves. But it lasts for like five minutes, and then you’re over it and you’re happy again that they’re there with you.

‘Jersey Shore’ cast: 4th season most dramatic yet

SEASIDE HEIGHTS, New Jersey (AP)—It was a mix of chaos and cross-talk, lipstick and hairspray Thursday as the cast of MTV’s “Jersey Shore” converged on the New Jersey house that has become synonymous with beachside debauchery.

“Wow, the counter’s actually clean.”

“What are we doing?”
“I don’t know, nobody told us.”

“We have warm Diet Pepsi? Fine.”

The eight hard-partying personalities recently returned from Florence, Italy, filming the fourth season of their wildly popular reality television show, which was scheduled to premiere Thursday night. And spending six weeks in each other’s presence in a foreign country led to all-out brawls and the most dramatic season yet, cast members said in interviews with The Associated Press.

“Drama, hookups, breakups, makeups,” said Ronnie Ortiz-Magro.

A preview of the fourth season released by MTV shows Ortiz-Magro and Mike “The Situation” Sorrentino in a major confrontation, turning over furniture and screaming before paramedics carry someone out on a stretcher. Cast member Vinny Guadagnino said that was the first time two housemates had fought with each other.

“We’re stuck in the house to-



The cast members of MTV’s “Jersey Shore” pose at their television home Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011, in Seaside Heights, N.J.

gether, and all we had was each other in Italy, so the beef is bound to come out,” Guadagnino said.

And for the Italian-American themed show that has made “guido” and “guidette” household words, the Italy season was a chance for some to reconnect with their heritage. Sorrentino said his ancestry is 100 percent Italian—half from Sicily and half from Naples—and he recognized elements of his childhood

when Italians brought out course after course of food at even the most casual of meals.

“It really was something else for me to see that, and relate it back to my family,” he said. “Just as the way the Italians spoke. They speak with their hands, as I do.”

MTV goes to great lengths to keep the details of the show secret until they hit the airwaves, but one cast member still man-

aged to make major international headlines while in Florence. Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi had her driver’s license revoked in June after a fender-bender with a police car that left two officers slightly injured.

“Actually, it was kind of funny because it wasn’t like anything serious,” Polizzi said, curled up on the couch next to Ortiz-Magro in the house where they finished shooting season five on Tuesday.

Winehouse, Tony Bennett duet to be charity single

LONDON (AP)—Amy Winehouse's final recording, a duet with Tony Bennett, will be released as a charity single for a foundation set up in her name, her family said Thursday.

"Body and Soul" will go on sale in September, with proceeds going to the newly established Amy Winehouse Foundation.

Dunaway: Moved, so can't be evicted from NYC apt.

NEW YORK (AP)—Faye Dunaway denies she's been evicted from her New York City apartment.

The Oscar-winning actress tells The New York Times she gave up the one-bedroom apartment in May because it was in poor condition and she was spending less time in New York.

The paper had reported her landlord had filed a lawsuit seeking to evict her from her \$1,048 rent-stabilized apartment.

The lawsuit claimed she didn't use the apartment as her primary residence as required by rent-stabilization rules.

Dunaway says she got the apartment from her mentor, playwright William Alfred, who died in 1999. She says she's been working on donating his possessions to Brooklyn College, where he did his undergraduate work.

The landlord's lawyer says Dunaway offered to hand over the apartment keys on Wednesday.



Winehouse

The two singers recorded the pop standard in March at London's Abbey Road Studios for Bennett's forthcoming "Duets II" album.

Winehouse, who had struggled for years with drug and alcohol addiction, was found dead at her London home on July 23, aged 27.

Her father, Mitch Winehouse,

said releasing the song for charity was "the most fitting tribute of all" to his daughter. Her voice sounds "as amazing and beautiful as ever" on the recording, he said.

After Winehouse's death Bennett called her "an artist of immense proportions" and said she "gave a soulful and extraordinary performance" when they worked together.

Mitch Winehouse said the foundation would fund a range of charities for young people.

"We intend to raise funds and distribute them to individual projects who apply for help," he said.

"I couldn't be happier that everyone involved with Amy and this recording felt they wanted to contribute."

The family also hopes to establish a drug rehab center for addicted youths.

"Body and Soul" will be released by Columbia Records, a division of Sony Music.

Ratner, Mischer tapped to produce Oscars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The film academy has tapped Brett Ratner and Don Mischer to produce next year's Academy Awards.

This will be Ratner's first involvement with the Oscar show and Mischer's second: He produced and directed the 2011 Academy Awards telecast and was nominated for an Emmy for his work on the show.

Academy president Tom Sherak made the announcement Thursday.

Mischer said in an interview that he's excited to oversee the Oscars again.

"I was just so happy to receive the call from the academy saying we'd like to have you come back," he said. "It was unexpected and a real delight. More than anything, I'm looking forward to working with Brett."

Ratner said producing the Oscar show is "beyond a dream come true."

"This wasn't even in my dreams, it's so far out," he said. "This is something I never could have imagined."

Ratner has produced and directed both film and television. His credits include "X-Men: The Last Stand," "Rush Hour" and the pilot of TV's "Prison Break."

Mischer is a veteran producer and director of live television events, including Super Bowl halftime shows, Olympics opening ceremonies, the Emmy Awards and this year's Oscars.

Dawn Hudson, chief executive of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, said she is eager to see Mischer's expertise blend with Ratner's "smart and fresh take for the show."

"They have great chemistry," she said, "and their vision meshed so well with ours."

The two men declined to reveal their plans. They said they haven't discussed potential hosts for the show.

"Everything is open at this point," Mischer said. "We're just at the starting gate."

He said they plan to watch past telecasts and "figure out what we can do to make things better."

Ratner said they plan to start working on the show immediately. "Work begins now," he said. "We're going to hang up the phone and get to work."

The 84th annual Academy Awards will be presented at the Kodak Theatre on Feb. 26, 2012.



Ratner



Dear Abby

Bride-to-be wants a do-over on groom's marriage proposal

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My fiancee, "Vanessa," and I have been engaged almost a year. We're to be married in three months. When I popped the question, I took her to one of her favorite spots in the Smoky Mountains. When I proposed, she was overcome with emotion—but not the kind I would have thought. She said yes, but she wasn't at all happy about being surprised. She doesn't like surprises.

At the time, I was sure she had an inkling about my intentions. We had discussed becoming engaged several times. Now, as the wedding draws near, she wants me to "re-propose." It makes me feel like my first wasn't good enough, and it is really upsetting me. I only intended to do it once in my life. What would you recommend?

QUESTIONED-OUT IN OHIO

DEAR QUESTIONED-OUT: I recommend you clear the air with Vanessa ASAP. Tell her you intended to propose only once in your life, and that her request has hurt your feelings. If she still insists on a second proposal, ask for a script so you won't disappoint her again. Then be prepared to have her provide you with them regularly, because unless you're a mind reader, it's the only way you'll live up to her fantasies.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: We stand in line for movie tickets, sporting events, Black Friday shopping, etc. Am I being overly sensitive when I have stood in line and the person in front of me allows family or friends to cut in? It irks me no end when I have spent anywhere from 30 minutes to several hours waiting and someone butts in front of me.

How can I tactfully address this without being confrontational? Or should I just bite my tongue and move on?

STANDING IN LINE

DEAR STANDING: It's one thing when a person lets a spouse or one other person in—and quite another when it's half a dozen people. However, folks this rude can be hypersensitive when challenged and cause an altercation, so I don't recommend taking them on.

An exception to this would be Black Friday, or a store event in which only a certain number of shoppers will be allowed in. In a case like that, security should be notified if a large number of people are cutting in line.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: How can I get my stepsons to show some compassion and love for their father? They seem to forget that they have him, and that he labored to help them become successful citizens. He's a kind and sensitive man who should be cherished. He has Alzheimer's disease and needs their love now more than ever.

They live in other states, but could call more than once a year. My husband doesn't say much about them anymore. He did when we first married six years ago. We keep busy, but I cry for him. He has no family. His first wife lived for her sons only and probably forgot about her relationship with my husband. Perhaps this attitude was passed on to his sons. How do others in my situation cope?

CRYING IN WISCONSIN

DEAR CRYING: Dry your tears, pick up the phone and encourage the "boys" to call their father once a week to say they are thinking of him and love him—and to share some memory their father will relate to. And should your husband's sons have a memory lapse and forget to call, remind them—but do it without laying a guilt trip.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Lady Gaga to appear in interview special on CW

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Platinum-selling pop star Lady Gaga will sit down with fashion designer Jean Paul Gaultier for an interview special airing next month on the CW network. On the program, "Gaga by Gaultier," Lady Gaga meets Gaultier in Paris to discuss her meteoric rise to fame, her love of fashion and art, and her strategy in marketing her image and music. The special, announced Thursday by the network, will air Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. Eastern (Sept. 13 at 0000 GMT).

Aretha Franklin to give free NYC concert

NEW YORK (AP)—Aretha Franklin will perform at a free concert in New York City's Coney Island. The Daily News reports that the Queen of Soul will appear at the Brooklyn seaside venue Thursday night. She'll belt out some of her greatest hits like "Freeway of Love" and songs from her latest album "A Woman Falling Out of Love." She told the News: "They will get to hear everything that they came to hear—all of the hits." Franklin canceled two appearances in Brooklyn last year due to a variety of physical ailments.

Marilyn Monroe film to be centerpiece of NY fest

NEW YORK (AP)—"My Week With Marilyn," starring Michele Williams as Marilyn Monroe, will be the centerpiece of the New York Film Festival. Simon Curtis' film is about a fleeting encounter between a film set assistant and Monroe in the summer of 1956. The young assistant, Colin Clark, was working on "The Prince and the Showgirl," which starred Monroe and Laurence Olivier. Monroe had recently married Arthur Miller. "My Week With Marilyn" is based on Clark's diary of the week. Kenneth Branagh plays Olivier and Dougray Scott plays Miller. Eddie Redmayne stars as the 23-year-old Clark. The film will premiere Oct. 9 at Alice Tully Hall. It's to be released by the Weinstein Company on Nov. 4. The 49th New York Film Festival runs Sept. 30 through Oct. 16.

Lil Wayne sued for \$15 million over 'Bedrock'

NEW YORK (AP)—Rapper Lil Wayne faces a \$15 million legal battle over allegations he stole the hit song "Bedrock." Georgia-based production company Done Deal Enterprises is suing Wayne,

Universal Music Group, Cash Money Records and Young Money Entertainment for copyright infringement. Lawyers for the rapper and representatives for Universal Music didn't return a request for comment Thursday. Lil Wayne has been ordered to appear in court Oct. 12. The song, which featured appearances by Drake, Nicki Minaj and Lloyd, peaked at No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 and was on the compilation 2010 CD "We Are Young Money." The lawsuit, filed Friday in the Southern District court, is the latest legal woe facing the rapper, born Dwayne Carter Jr. He also has been sued by several producers over unpaid royalties.

Brooke Shields to stay in 'The Addams Family'

NEW YORK (AP)—Brooke Shields is keeping her ghoulish makeup on a little while longer. The actress has decided to extend her run as Morticia in Broadway's "The Addams Family" through the end of the year. She had originally planned to leave the musical around Halloween. Says Shields: "I am having the time of my life." The musical is based on Charles Addams' characters. Shields inherited the role from Bebe Neuwirth in late June and currently stars opposite Roger Rees, who plays Gomez. Shields, who starred in "The Blue Lagoon" and TV's "Suddenly Susan," has appeared on Broadway in other musicals, including "Wonderful Town," "Chicago," "Cabaret" and "Grease."

Sarah Michelle Gellar plans return to axed soap

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Sarah Michelle Gellar is headed for a new series on the CW network, but she says she'll find time to return to "All My Children." Gellar confirmed Thursday that she'll make a farewell appearance on the canceled soap, where she played Kendall Hart from 1993 to 1995, and won a daytime Emmy award. "Children" will disappear from ABC on Sept. 23, ending a 4-decade run. "I just wanted to be part of it," Gellar told reporters gathered for the Television Critics Association's press tour. She said she has no idea what part she will play in her one-day guest shot. The former "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" star was on hand to discuss her new series, "Ringer," where she plays a woman in trouble who impersonates her twin sister. "Ringers" premieres Sept. 13 on the CW.

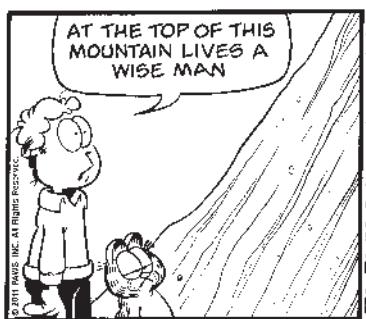
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



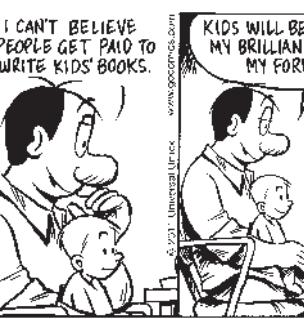
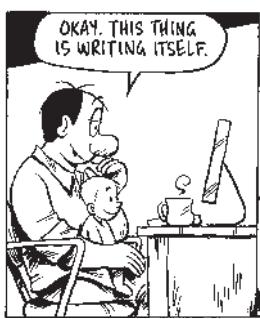
By Bill Waterson

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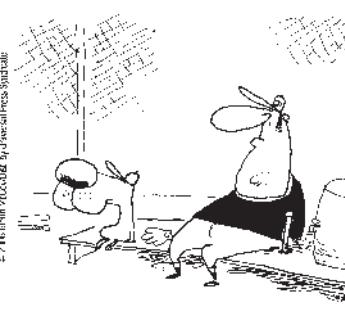
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By Bryan Basset

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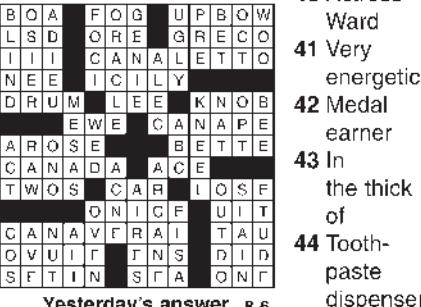
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

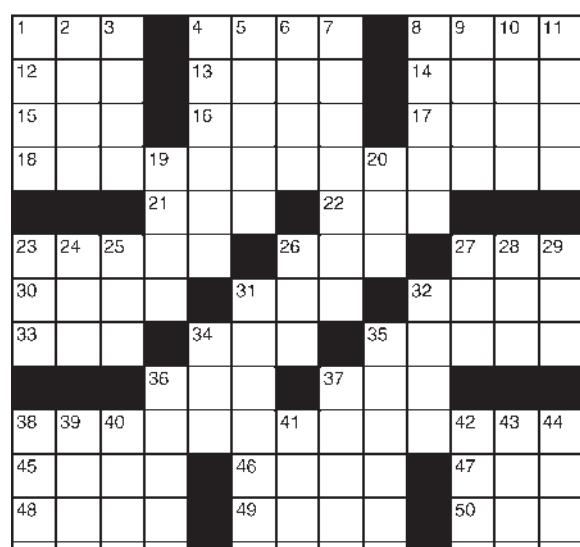
By Eugene Sheffer

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Solution time: 27 mins.



Yesterday's answer 8-6



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Vera Farmiga, 38; Geri Halliwell, 39; M. Night Shyamalan, 41; Michelle Yeoh, 49.

Happy Birthday: Life may be disrupted for a while, but the result will be in your favor if you are smart in how you proceed. Putting up now with a few limitations and frustrating people will help you get much more in the end. Focus on what needs to be done and how you can get the most out of the situation you face. Your numbers are 10, 13, 18, 22, 31, 44, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Trouble will prevail if you are difficult to get along with. Avoid arguments and aggressive behavior. Focus on having fun, being attentive and, most of all, being agreeable. Some simple changes to your looks or attitude will turn out well. ☀☀☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your emotions may lead you down a slippery slope. Think before you do something that will not go over well with someone you love. Over-spending or overindulging will bring poor results. Concentrate on learning and improvements that will benefit you professionally. ☀☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get your chores out of the way. You don't want to upset anyone you live with or anyone to whom you have made a promise. Don't let a work or financial problem ruin your day. ☀☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Focus on having fun. Energizing activities should be on your agenda. Express yourself in a novel way and you will attract interest in some-

thing you want to pursue. Join a club or group and you will make new friends. ☀☀☀☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Troubles at home will prevail if you let little things bother you. Someone is likely to disagree with what you think or do. Concentrate on self-improvement instead of trying to change someone else. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Opportunity knocks and must be taken advantage of. You have some great ideas that need to be shared for you to get ahead. Action must be taken with regard to your future and how you can use your knowledge and talents to the maximum. ☀☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may want to change your life, but don't be too hasty. Before jumping into unfamiliar territory, find out what's actually being offered. Instead of chasing change, help someone you like. You will enhance your relationship and avoid making a costly and irreversible mistake. ☀☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotions will well up, causing personal complications. Accept the inevitable and realize that something good can be taken out of every difficult situation you face. Don't put restrictions on others, and you will avoid having them put on you. ☀☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get your chores out of the way. You don't want to upset anyone you live with or anyone to whom you have made a promise. Don't let a work or financial problem ruin your day. ☀☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Focus on having fun. Energizing activities should be on your agenda. Express yourself in a novel way and you will attract interest in some-

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Changes at home will turn out splendidly. A moneymaking deal or gift is heading your way. Don't spend foolishly trying to impress someone who is just there for the ride. Consider how you can avoid letting someone take advantage of your generosity. ☀☀☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A new investment or project will entice you. Make sure you know what you are getting into before you make any promises. Hidden costs are likely to materialize. A last-minute alteration will leave you feeling uneasy and angry. ☀☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do your own research rather than taking someone else's word. Deception among peers, partners or relatives is present and must not be allowed to take over. Honesty is the best policy and will enable you to be the one who comes out on top. ☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your mind will be in overdrive and your ideas will be superb. Take advantage of any opportunity you get to plan for the future, especially if it has to do with a sideline business that can bring in extra cash. ☀☀☀☀

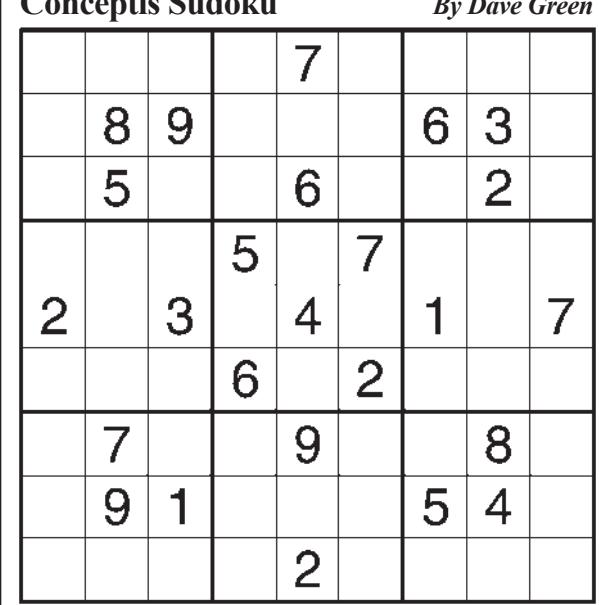
Birthday Baby: You are emotional, sensitive, courageous and determined.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

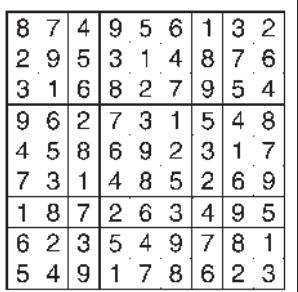
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BEALE STREET IN MEMPHIS



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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Difficulty Level ****

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Wishing Well®

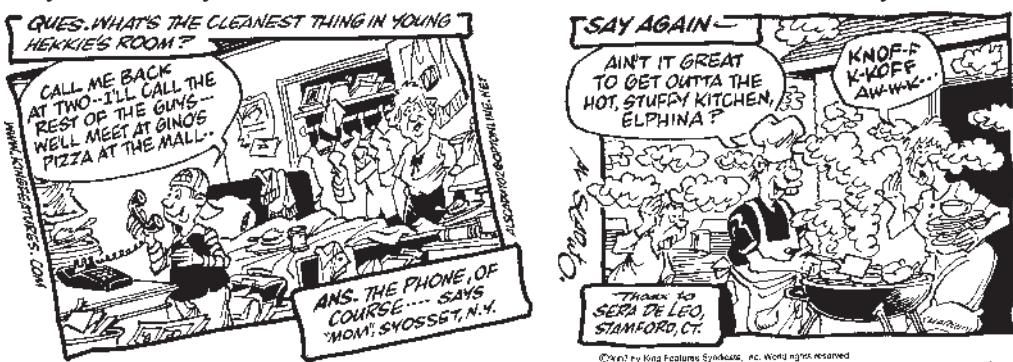
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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

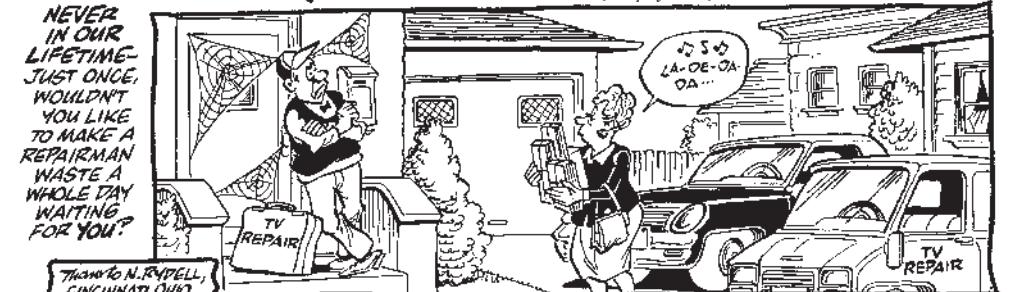
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They'll Do It Every Time



by Al Scaduto



ANSWER: COURSE... SAYS MOM: SYOSSET, N.Y.

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NEVER IN OUR LIFETIME- JUST ONCE, WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO MAKE A REPAIRMAN WASTE A WHOLE DAY WAITING FOR YOU?

THANKS TO N. RUDDELL, CINCINNATI, OHIO

ANSWER: LA-OE-OA-OA...

ANSWER: TERRIBLE... I LOST EVERYTHING

ANSWER: ...EXCEPT FOR MY GOOD LUCK CHARM!!

ANSWER: 1. HISTORY: What was the name of the Roman general who captured Jerusalem in 70 A.D.? 2. ARCHITECTURE: Who came up with the first design of the U.S. Capitol Building? 3. LITERATURE: In what town was writer Mark Twain born? 4. TELEVISION: Who was Tom

ANSWER: 5. U.S. STATES: What state is nicknamed the Garden State? 6. MYTHOLOGY: In Greek mythology, what was a creature that was half man and half goat?

ANSWER: 7. INVENTIONS: In what decade was the microwave oven invented? 8. EXPLORERS: To which tribe did Sacajawea, the Native American guide who led the Lewis and Clark expedition, belong?

ANSWER: 9. Saturday's Answers

ANSWER: 1. TITUS 2. William Thornton 3. Florida, Missouri 4. Peter Soldier 5. Kevin Spacey 6. Geology 7. 1940s 8. Shoshone 9. New Jersey 10. Safer

ANSWER: 11. Shoshone 12. "The Longest Day" 13. "The Longest Day" 14. "The Longest Day" 15. "The Longest Day" 16. "The Longest Day" 17. "The Longest Day" 18. "The Longest Day" 19. "The Longest Day" 20. "The Longest Day" 21. "The Longest Day" 22. "The Longest Day" 23. "The Longest Day" 24. "The Longest Day" 25. "The Longest Day" 26. "The Longest Day" 27. "The Longest Day" 28. "The Longest Day" 29. "The Longest Day" 30. "The Longest Day" 31. "The Longest Day" 32. "The Longest Day" 33. "The Longest Day" 34. "The Longest Day" 35. "The Longest Day" 36. "The Longest Day" 37. "The Longest Day" 38. "The Longest Day" 39. "The Longest Day" 40. "The Longest Day" 41. "The Longest Day" 42. "The Longest Day" 43. "The Longest Day" 44. "The Longest Day" 45. "The Longest Day" 46. "The Longest Day" 47. "The Longest Day" 48. "The Longest Day" 49. "The Longest Day" 50. "The Longest Day" 51. "The Longest Day" 52. "The Longest Day" 53. "The Longest Day" 54. "The Longest Day" 55. "The Longest Day" 56. 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CLASSIFIED ADS



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

FOR SALE

\$299 Acer Netbook (New)
\$410 Toshiba Laptop (New)
Call/Text 789-2757

APT. FOR RENT

STUDIO TYPE—About 350sq.ft.
Fully Furnished. \$400 monthly
Includes: Power, 24hr water, WiFi, & trash.
Located in Middle Rd. Garapan, 2nd Floor
Judy's Bldg., right across Pacific Quick Print
Call: 483-4830

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/
24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi &
ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA
applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/
students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH
Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view.
Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up
Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-
time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH
Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view.
Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up
Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-
time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT

Sablan Enterprises, Inc. Commercial space and
apartments for rent. Great roadside locations
in San Jose, Chalan Kanoa, and Chalan Paio.
Call Ben Sablan (Cell 898-9285) or Tony Muna
(Cell 888-9290) Tel. No. 234-2585/235-9020

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Good
condition. 2000 yr. & up. We
pay cash! Pls. call 287-7676

WEBSITE SERVICE

\$25/yearly/Text 788-1658
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Property Management Assistant

Company Background & Job Purpose

Bridge Capital, LLC, an international investment banking and asset management company, is in need of a self-motivated individual who will be assisting in the management of a portfolio of properties and providing administrative support to the company.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Directly assist the property managers in the management of a portfolio of real properties
- Provide day-to-day administrative support to the company

Qualifications

- Previous experience in property management is preferred
- Knowledge in Intuit Quickbooks accounting software is preferred
- Accounting background is preferred
- Strong computer skills is desired
- Must have strong written and oral communication skills

Salary Commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Bridge Capital is an equal opportunity employer.

Interested applicants may email their resume to rs@bccnmi.com or rosanna@bccnmi.com or drop the resume by at Bridge Capital's office at Micro Beach Road Garapan

FOR THOSE ABOUT TO ROCK

WE RECRUIT YOU.

NOW SEEKING TO FILL ACCOUNTANT POSITION

Required Qualifications:

Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Hands on. Self starter.
Able to work with little supervision.

Minimum of 4 yrs experience in similar position.
Familiar in the preparation of Financial Statements.
Familiar with the preparation of Payroll Process, taxes, Micros,
Peachtree and exceptional skills in MS Excel and Word.

Result and detail oriented.

Able to work with strict deadlines

Please send resume to: Hard Rock Cafe Saipan
e-mail: henie@hardrocksaipan.com
Fax : (670) 233-7624



HARDROCK.COM

You Know Who You Are And Where To Work



WHATZIT Solution: A candle in the wind



32 FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011



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Woods off to strong start at Bridgestone



AKRON, Ohio
 (AP)—Tiger Woods appeared to face a big test Thursday in his return to golf.

It was a 3-wood around the trees on the 658-yard 16th hole at Firestone that required him to go at it hard, cut short his back swing to produce the sharp fade, then let the momentum of his motion carry his body forward with an awkward step.

Only it didn't feel like that big of a deal to Woods.

"I was just trying to hit a cut," he said. "I didn't feel any problem with that."

His only concern in the Bridgestone Invitational was that he hit the ball too flush and too far. He still managed three birdies, including a 30-foot putt on the 16th hole, that carried him to a 2-under 68 and sent a strong statement that his leg was as healthy as he thought.

His game wasn't half bad, either.

"It feels great," Woods said. "As anybody who's been off and who's been injured, first time back it's a little nervous to see what happens. But my practice sessions were good, so there's no reason why I should be worried out there. I went out there and let it go, let it rip and see what happens."

His ex-caddie saw some familiar golf at Firestone, too.

Steve Williams, now working permanently for Adam Scott after Woods fired him a month ago, watched the Australian play flawless in matching his career-low round on the PGA Tour with a 62 that gave Scott a one-shot lead over Jason Day.

Williams was on the bag for all seven of Woods' wins at Firestone, including his 11-shot win in 2000 when Woods had a 61 in the second round and set the tournament record at 259.

"He didn't think it was a big deal to shoot 62," Scott said with a grin. "It was normal."

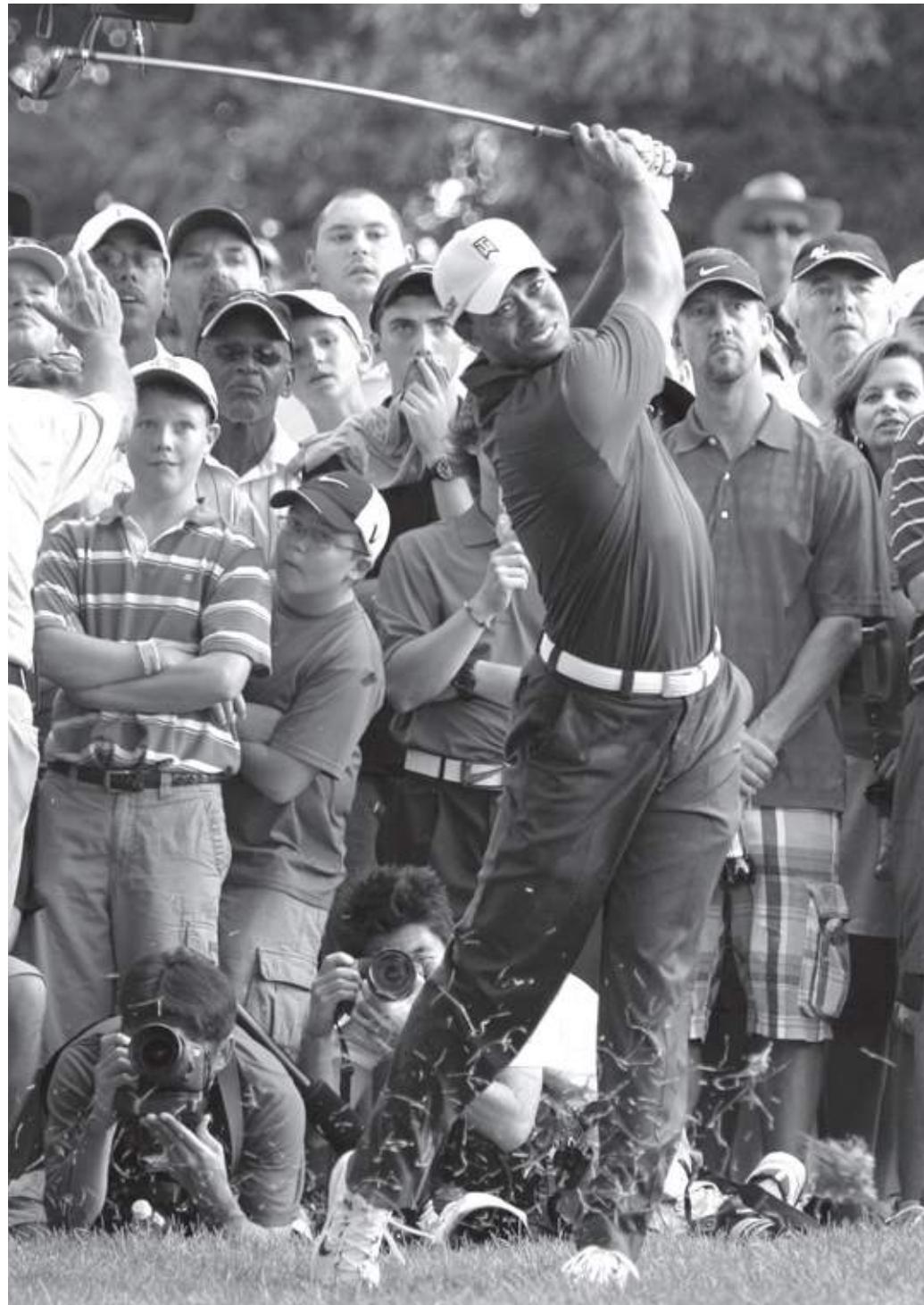
Despite all the interest about Woods' return, there was nothing special about his score, even if it was his lowest opening round this year.

The conditions were so soft and calm that 39 players in the 78-man field broke par, a record number for any round in the 12 years this World Golf Championship has been played on Firestone South.

The scoring average was 69.63, the lowest since the opening round in 2001. Scott, who birdied four of his last six holes, had the lowest opening round ever at Firestone.

Day, who tied for second with Scott at the Masters, shot a 63 in the morning. Nick Watney, a World Golf Championship winner at Doral this year, bogeyed the last hole and still had a 65.

"Probably not what we're used to seeing around this course, so it was good to take advantage of that," Scott said.



AP
 Tiger Woods tees off the 16th hole during the first round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio, on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011.

Even so, this day was primarily about one score, and one player.

The attention on Woods was so great that when he stepped onto the first tee, the gallery

lined the entire right side of the 401-yard opening hole and wrapped around the green. Phil

Mickelson was wrapping up his round of 67 at No. 9, and when the fans around the green and in the grandstands had their backs turned to watch Woods tee off.

Playing in soft spikes for the first time, and going back to the putter that he used in 13 of his major championships, Woods avoided a poor start by making an 18-foot par putt on the third, and he saved his round toward the end of the front nine by getting up-and-down from a bunker on the eighth, and making a 20-foot par putt on the ninth.

Then came his approach on the 10th, that spun out of the back fringe and settled about 4 feet away for birdie—not only his first of the day, but his first since he two-putted for birdie from 4 feet on the 15th hole at the Masters on April 10.

Woods injured a knee ligament and his Achilles' tendon in that tournament, and then said he returned too early at The Players Championship. He aggravated the injuries on the first hole at the TPC Sawgrass and quit after nine holes at 6-over par. He said he would not play again until he was fully healthy, and that much showed at Firestone.

There was one moment on the 17th tee when a reporter thought he saw Woods lift his left leg in a peculiar fashion.

"The marker was right in my way," Woods said with a grin.

Perhaps more telling is that Woods said he stopped putting ice on his leg and taking inflammatory medicine "a while ago," and held nothing back in his first competitive round in 84 days.

"I hadn't really gone at it yet until today," he said. "Just kind of plodding away, just kind of hitting shots. Today was just, 'Let's go, let's go play, just put everything else aside and let's

go give it a go and try to post a low number."

His lone bogey came on the 14th hole, when he tried to hit a perfect bunker shot from a slightly downhill lie with the green running away from him. He came inches short of pulling it off, leaning back in disbelief. He two-putted from the collar for bogey, and then came back two holes later with a shot on the 16th that showed he might already be at full strength.

The only problem he had was controlling his distance, and Woods had a reason for that, too.

"I'm hitting it just so much more flush, and I'm just not used to that," he said. Does that mean he was hitting it badly before?

"Yeah," he said. "My swing was more of a wiper swing ... so I wasn't getting a full transfer of energy. Now I'm swinging easier. I'm not even hitting it hard yet, and that's what's fun. I'm hitting it farther without any more effort."

It took great effort to get atop the leaderboard.

Day went out early and posted a bogey-free round of 63, making birdie on the last hole. No one else from the morning group was better than a 66.

And then it was Scott's turn in the afternoon. He thought 63 was a pretty low score for this South course, but then figured it was there for the taking with so many other scores in the 60s.

"I just feel like I need to get myself in these things from Thursday, show up and go, not show up and see how you get on the first nine," Scott said. "I feel like that's a good way for me to go because I'm hitting the ball well, and I feel really confident on the greens. It was green light and just attack."

going to just file it away the way other teams do."

When the union informed the league that the NFLPA's team reps voted to approve the final agreement, it meant players who signed contracts July 26 or after—and had been forced by NFL rules to sit out practices for days—could join teammates in drills Thursday, as the new "league year" officially began.

"We were like little kids in Pop Warner who didn't make weight, just standing around," said McNabb, who restructured his contract when he was traded to Minnesota by the Washington Redskins.

A little after 5 p.m., the NFL's website about the labor dispute was shut down. Later Thursday evening, the federal court in Minnesota that was the venue for the antitrust suit filed by Tom Brady and other players, as well as a TV networks "lockout insurance" case, officially deemed those cases dismissed.

Growth hormone test added to NFL deal



WASHINGTON
 (AP)—Quarterback Donovan McNabb eagerly

bounced onto the practice field with his Minnesota Vikings teammates in Mankato, Minn., on Thursday afternoon, before being told he and other NFL players with new contracts still needed to be patient.

And then, shortly before 5 p.m. EDT, the good news came: The wait was over. The

NFL officially was back in business, CBA and all. That 4 1/2-month lockout? A thing of the past in every way.

"Were we going to have the opportunity to step on the field today? Was this thing going to linger?" McNabb said, explaining his thoughts while on hold for word of a completed collective bargaining agreement. "Good thing we got this thing settled. And now here we are."

Players ratified a new, 10-year CBA on Thursday, hours after it was finalized, and two people familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press the contract allows the

NFL to eventually become the first major U.S. professional sports league to use blood testing for human growth hormone.

They spoke on condition of anonymity because no formal announcement had been made about the details of the CBA.

Players would be subject to random testing for HGH, in addition to annual checks—as is the case for all banned substances in the league's drug-testing program—only after the union is confident in the way the testing and appeals process will work.

"We have to see if we agree with the test," Jacksonville Jaguars cornerback Rashean Mathis said. "If we agree with the test, then it's legit. If not, they have to come up with an-

other one."

The aim is to have everything worked out in time to start HGH testing by Week 1 of the regular season, but that is not guaranteed.

"Everyone in this game has championed making sure drugs aren't involved in our game. So we are finding our way through this," said Indianapolis Colts center Jeff Saturday, who was one of the players' key negotiators in recent months. "It hasn't been easy, just understanding all the ins and outs of it."

Cowboys' player representative Jason Witten says it's important to make sure the game is drug-free.

"You can't have an advantage like that. You've got to have an equalizer. I think we've seen in other sports how it's kind of blown up in their face a little bit," Witten said. "I think players welcome that as long as it is in the right

parameters and the guidelines. I think that's going to happen and I don't think players are too worried about it just as long as it's done the right way."

Most of the deal to end the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987 was agreed to last month, but certain elements still needed to be ironed out after the NFL Players Association re-established itself as a union.

The union—which dissolved itself in March, when the old CBA expired, allowing players to sue the league in federal court—was again formed by last weekend. Final CBA language was in place Thursday afternoon in talks between the sides' lawyers in Washington.

Not every player welcomed the new CBA with open arms.

"We felt like it was getting shoved down our throats," Pittsburgh Steelers offensive tackle Willie Colon said. "Our players reps (weren't) comfortable with it ... We're not

Lee tops Giants for fifth shutout



SAN FRANCISCO
(AP) —

Cliff Lee threw a seven-hitter, and Hunter Pence and John Mayberry(notes) hit back-to-back home runs for Philadelphia.

Lee (11-7) was commanding in his first regular season start against the Giants in two years, striking out eight, including Cody Ross four times, and not walking a hitter. He set down 10 straight at one point in his major league-leading fifth shutout.

Pence had three hits and drove in two runs and is hitting .360 (9 for 25) since joining the Phillies. He ended a 19-game, 67-at bat homer-less drought when he connected on Madison Bumgarner's first pitch in the second inning.

Bumgarner allowed two homers in a game for just the second time this year and the first since June 15.

Bumgarner (6-11) retired 13 of 14 following Mayberry's blast. He went eight innings, allowing six hits, walking two and striking out nine.

It was also some revenge for Lee, who lost twice to the Giants in last year's World Series pitching for the Texas Rangers.

"That's in the past," Lee said. "We just want to win every series. Getting the first game means you're in better shape. It's August, still the middle of the season. We want to stay in a groove and keep winning."

Pence had three hits and drove in two runs and is hitting .360 (9 for 25) since joining the Phillies.

"He has come in and fit in nicely," Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard said. "He gives us energy and intensity. He's been great for our team."

"The game was all about pitching and good defense on both sides," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "After the two home runs Bumgarner was really good."

Cardinals 7, Marlins 4

At Miami, Albert Pujols hit his 25th home run and finished a triple shy of the cycle, and six relievers combined to pitch six innings to help St. Louis beat Florida 7-4 on Thursday night.

Pujols came into the game only 1 for 14 on the Cardinals' trip. He walked and scored in the first inning, singled and scored in the third, homered in the fourth and doubled in the sixth.

The Cardinals' David Freese was hit in the helmet by a 3-2 pitch with the bases loaded in the third inning. It put the Cardinals ahead 4-3. Freese left the game with a mild concussion and a bruise.

Marlins second baseman Omar Infante broke his right middle finger diving for a grounder in the third.

Reliever Kyle McClellan (9-



Philadelphia Phillies' Cliff Lee follows through on a delivery to the San Francisco Giants during the first inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011, in San Francisco. AP

6) pitched three scoreless innings. Fernando Salas retired Gaby Sanchez on a flyout with the bases loaded to end the eighth, then pitched a perfect ninth for his 20th save.

Clay Hensley (1-4) lasted 2 1-3 innings and allowed six runs.

Cubs 7, Pirates 6

At Pittsburgh, Carlos Pena hit one of Chicago's three home runs and walked with the bases loaded during a three-run eighth-inning rally as the Cubs won their season-high fifth straight.

Pena, Geovany Soto and Blake DeWitt homered to give Chicago 10 in the four-game sweep, the Cubs' first in Pittsburgh in 52 years.

The Pirates—in first place in the NL Central 10 days ago—have lost nine of 10 and a season-high seven consecutive.

Pirates starter James McDonald made it through seven innings for the first time this season and had his first three career RBIs during a six-run fourth.

Daniel McCutchen (3-3) relieved him in the eighth and did not retire any of the three batters he faced. All of them scored.

Jeff Samardzija (6-4) pitched a scoreless seventh to earn the win, and Carlos Marmol(notes) worked a perfect ninth for his fourth save in the past five days and 23rd of the season.

Rockies 6, Nationals 3

At Denver, Troy Tulowitzki homered among his three hits and Esmil Rogers pitched effectively into the sixth inning for Colorado.

Ty Wigginton and Chris Nelson had two hits each for the Rockies, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Ryan Zimmerman had three hits and Michael Morse, Wilson Ramos, and Rick Ankiel had two hits each for the Nationals.

Rogers (5-1) allowed one run and seven hits, walked two and struck out six in 5 2-3 innings.

The Rockies took a 2-1 lead in the fifth on Eric Young Jr.'s RBI single. Tulowitzki made it 3-1 when he led off the sixth with his 21st homer.

Ross Detwiler (1-1) gave up two runs and five hits, walked three and struck out one in five innings. It was his second start of the season.

Yankees 7, White Sox 2

At Chicago, Ivan Nova struck out a career-high 10 and the New York Yankees beat the Chicago White Sox 7-2 on Thursday night, completing a four-game sweep and winning their seventh in a row overall.

The Yankees moved into a tie with Boston for the AL East lead. The teams begin a three-game series at Fenway Park on Friday night.

Russell Martin hit a three-run homer in the ninth to break open the game and send Chicago to its sixth straight loss. He drove in four runs.

Nova (10-4) pitched 7 2-3 innings and won his sixth consecutive decision. He held Chicago to one run and six hits and didn't walk a batter.

Robinson Cano homered, singled, walked and scored a pair of runs for the Yankees.

Phil Humber (8-8) lost his fourth straight start. He went 6 1-3 innings, allowing five hits and four runs.

Indians 7, Red Sox 3

At Boston, Justin Masterson struck out nine and again beat his former team, and Carlos Santana hit a go-ahead home run for Cleveland.

The Indians won for only the fourth time in 15 games. The four-game split prevented Cleveland from falling below .500 for the first time since they

were 1-2 to start the season.

Erik Bedard, making his Red Sox debut after being acquired from Seattle, gave up three runs and seven hits in five innings.

Masterson (9-7) allowed three runs and five hits in six innings. He improved to 3-0 overall against Boston, which traded him to the Indians to get Victor Martinez in 2009.

Franklin Morales (0-1) took the loss for Boston.

Rays 7, Blue Jays 6, 12 innings

At St. Petersburg, Robinson Chirinos hit a tying pinch-single in the 11th inning, then delivered a two-out single in the 12th to lift Tampa Bay.

The Rays twice rallied in extra innings. Desmond Jennings' solo homer in the 10th made it 4-all and Chirinos tied it again the next inning with his two-out single off Shawn Camp (1-2).

Tampa Bay loaded the bases

in the 12th on B.J. Upton's one-out triple and two intentional walks. One out later, Chirinos grounded a single off Camp past shortstop Yunel Escobar.

Evan Longoria hit a three-run homer for Tampa Bay. Jose Bautista hit his major league-leading 33rd home run for Toronto, a solo shot that made it 3-all in the eighth.

Brandon Gomes (1-1),

pitched one scoreless inning for his first major league win.

Rangers 5, Tigers 2

At Detroit, Alexi Ogando allowed two runs over 6 1-3 innings and Texas ended a three-game losing streak in a matchup of AL division leaders.

Ogando (11-5) became the first pitcher to defeat the Tigers three times this season—he has allowed three earned runs in 21 innings against Detroit for a 1.29 ERA.

Four Texas relievers finished, with Neftali Feliz pitching the ninth for his 22nd save.

Brad Penny (7-9) took the loss, giving up five runs and 11 hits—10 singles and Michael Young's triple—in 6 2-3 innings.

Texas added three runs in the fourth on RBI singles by Mike Napoli(notes) and Ian Kinsler and a sacrifice fly by Endy Chavez(notes).

Angels 7, Twins 1

At Anaheim, Dan Haren took a one-hitter into the eighth inning before giving up Jim Thome's 598th career homer, and Mark Trumbo had a homer and four RBIs for Los Angeles.

Haren (12-6) allowed five hits, struck out six and walked none before Scott Downs pitched the ninth.

Thome's leadoff homer to center field on a 1-2 pitch was the first of four consecutive hits by the Twins. But center fielder Peter Bourjos threw out Danny Valencia at the plate as he tried to score on a single by Tsuyoshi Nishioka.

Francisco Liriano (7-9) gave up seven runs and 10 hits in five innings and struck out five. He gave up a season-high seven runs for the third time.

Royals 9, Orioles 4

At Kansas City, Alex Gordon matched his career-high with four hits and Yamaico Navarro drove in three runs to lead Kansas City.

The Royals sent 11 men to the plate in a six-run sixth inning to break open the game. The inning included eight hits, with Navarro doubling home two runs and Chris Getz stroking a two-run single. Melky Cabrera and Billy Butler added run-producing singles in the inning.

Gordon, Cabrera and Butler, the first three Kansas City hitters, combined to go 8 for 14 with six runs, two doubles and three RBIs.

K.C. reliever Blake Wood (5-0) worked two hitless innings, walking two and striking out two.

Orioles left-hander Zach Britton (6-9) allowed six runs and 12 hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Stern paid less than Goodell, Selig



NEW YORK (AP)—

Two league officials say NBA Commissioner David Stern makes less than baseball's Bud Selig or the NFL's Roger Goodell, leaving his salary far below the more than \$20 million that's been reported.

Some reports had Stern's salary at \$23 million, angering

locked-out players being asked to accept pay cuts in a new collective bargaining agreement.

One of the officials told The Associated Press on Thursday that Stern's salary is set by the advisory/finance committee, which consists of 11 owners. The people were granted anonymity because the NBA does not release individual salaries.

Selig makes more than \$18

million annually. Goodell receives about \$10 million in salary, bonus and incentives.

The officials confirmed an ESPN.com report that Stern has declined to accept a pay check during the work stoppage, as he said he would when asked during the All-Star break about Goodell's plan to lower his salary to \$1 during the NFL's lockout.

Pacquiao files for sanctions against Mayweather

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	68	42	.618	—
New York	68	42	.618	—
Tampa Bay	58	52	.527	10
Toronto	56	55	.505	12 1/2
Baltimore	43	65	.398	24

Central Division

Detroit	59	52	.532	—
Cleveland	55	54	.505	3
Chicago	52	58	.473	6 1/2
Minnesota	51	60	.459	8
Kansas City	48	63	.432	11

West Division

Texas	62	50	.554	—
Los Angeles	61	51	.545	1
Oakland	49	62	.441	12 1/2
Seattle	48	62	.436	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	72	39	.649	—
Atlanta	64	48	.571	8 1/2
New York	55	55	.500	16 1/2
Florida	55	56	.495	17
Washington	53	58	.477	19

Central Division

Milwaukee	62	50	.554	—
St. Louis	59	53	.527	3
Pittsburgh	54	56	.491	7
Cincinnati	54	57	.486	7 1/2
Chicago	47	65	.420	15
Houston	37	74	.333	24 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	62	50	.554	—
Arizona	61	50	.550	1/2
Colorado	52	60	.464	10
Los Angeles	50	60	.455	11
San Diego	48	64	.429	14

Yesterday's Games

Tampa Bay	7	Toronto	6	12 innings
Texas	5	Detroit	2	
Cleveland	7	Boston	3	
Kansas City	9	Baltimore	4	
N.Y. Yankees	7	Chicago White Sox	2	
L.A. Angels	7	Minnesota	1	

WGC-BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL SCORES

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Scores Thursday from the \$8.5 million PGA Tour and European Tour event, played at the 7,101-yard, par-70 Firestone Country Club (South Course):

FIRST ROUND

Adam Scott	32-30-62
Jason Day	32-31-63
Nick Watney	34-31-65
Rory Sabbatini	32-34-66
D.A. Points	30-36-66
Stewart Cink	32-34-66
Thomas Bjorn	33-33-66
Brandt Snedeker	33-33-66
Kyung-tae Kim	35-31-66
Martin Laird	31-35-66
Pablo Larrazabal	31-35-66
Ryan Moore	34-32-66
Jonathan Byrd	35-32-67
Keegan Bradley	31-36-67
Lee Westwood	32-35-67
Phil Mickelson	34-33-67
Ryo Ishikawa	32-35-67
Arjun Atwal	36-32-68
Charley Hoffman	34-34-68
Luke Donald	34-34-68
Geoff Ogilvy	32-36-68
Sergio Garcia	35-33-68
Robert Karlsson	36-32-68
Rory McIlroy	32-36-68

LOCAL SCORES

UFO LEAGUE

W L

Visminda/Satbahi	2	0
Namrel/Proa	1	0
Bayani/Mobil	1	0
Cabalen/Noni	1	0
UPAA/Hoopaholis	1	0
NMBA/Mixed Blood	1	1
MDX/Blue Haus	0	2
Cavite/Andok's	0	2
Ali'i Konflikt	0	2

FUTSAL LEAGUE

WOMEN'S

W L D

Shirley's A	5	0	0
Shirley's B	4	0	0
IT&E Awesome	2	2	0
Mellow Yellow	2	2	0
Red Team	2	3	0
Kulet's Team	1	2	0
Thai Team	1	3	0
IT&E BlossomO	5	0	0

MEN'S

Korean Futsal	4	0	0
Wild Bill's	3	1	0
Docomo	2	1	2
Go Green	2	1	1
Red Inter	2	1	1
IT&E Men	2	3	0
Mellow Yellow	1	4	0
Thundercats	0	5	0



NEVADA (AP) — Welterweight champion Manny Pacquiao's legal team has filed a motion for default and dismissal in his defamation lawsuit against Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Pacquiao's representatives, Daniel Petrocelli and David Marroso, filed the motion Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Nevada. They are seeking a default judgment because Mayweather has steadfastly refused to appear during any of the 24 dates that he's been sought for deposition.

Pacquiao is accusing Mayweather of defamation after the rival boxer made

repeated statements alleging that the Filipino fighter used performance-enhancing substances. Pacquiao has denied such claims.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of the motion Thursday.

"Mayweather is not above the law," Petrocelli told the AP during a phone interview. "He's essentially forfeited his right for a defense" by not appearing at the depositions.

Mayweather's legal representatives did not return emails seeking comment.

The 15-page document outlines the timeframes during which Mayweather was asked to appear for deposition, and

claims that he has continued to allege Pacquiao's use of performance-enhancing substances.

Mayweather has cited his need to focus on an upcoming fight against Victor Ortiz, scheduled for September, along with the associated promotional requirements as the reason he has not attended the court-ordered depositions.

But several photographs included in the motion appear to show Mayweather at parties in Atlanta and Las Vegas during the same time periods during which he refused to be deposed.

"He is basically undermining the legal process," Petrocelli said.

in the second canto and VisMinda pulled way, leading by 18 at the break, 47-29.

Cavite/Andok's never recovered from thereon, as it played without gunner Freddie Pelisamen for the second straight game.

First Game

VisMinda/Satbahi 105 — Santos 28, Mangali 16, De Dios 14, Paredes 8, Camacho 7, Inos 6, Aquino 6, Sison 5, Manalo 4, Eclevia 4, Paraiso 3.

Cavite/Andok's 73 — Mabini 14, Wesley 12, Muleta 11, P. Camacho 10, Dayrit 10, C. Camacho 8, Llagas 6.

Scoring by quarters: 20-11, 47-29, 77-53, 105-73

